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SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED  
DISTRICTS

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR

1955

HENLEY BOROUGH, p. 26  
BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT, p. 37  
THAME URBAN DISTRICT, p. 45  
BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT, p. 52  
HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT, p. 75  
PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT, p. 88

OXFORD  
GEO. BRYAN AND CO.



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# PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

## 1955

### SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

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Additional Sanitary Inspector: <sup>2</sup>G. F. TASKER.

##### HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

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##### PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

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<sup>2</sup>A. W. EASTES, M.S.I.A.

<sup>1</sup> Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

<sup>2</sup> Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors' Examination Joint Board.

<sup>3</sup> Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

<sup>4</sup> Certificate of Liverpool University Inspector of Meat and other Foods.

<sup>5</sup> Also Engineer and Surveyor.

**Sanitary Inspectors' Assistant:**

Thame Urban District: R. E. OSBORN.

**Clerical Staff:**

Medical Officer of Health's Office: MRS. E. M. THOMPSON (part time)  
MISS G. B. GENNER, M.A. (part time)

Henley Borough.

MRS. K. LEWINGTON

Bicester Urban District:

J. BURR

Thame Urban District:

R. E. OSBORN

Bullington Rural District:

L. W. CHARLTON

Henley Rural District:

MISS M. E. BETTS

Ploughley Rural District:

A. L. W. NOKES

## **THE JOINT COMMITTEE 1955-56**

### **BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MR. S. A. WINTERBONE.

*Deputy:* MR. J. LEACH.

### **HENLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL**

The Mayor, Councillor C. T. LUKER.

*Deputy:* The Deputy Mayor, Councillor A. R. B. HOBBS.

### **THAME URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MR. B. N. RUST.

*Deputy:* NOT YET APPOINTED.

### **BULLINGTON RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MR. R. F. ROBERTS (*Chairman*).

MR. C. H. J. SHEPPARD, O.B.E.

\*MR. R. C. SURMAN, J.P. (*Vice-Chairman*).

### **HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL )**

SIR FELIX BRUNNER, BART.

MRS. M. E. MEDILL.

The REV. G. H. ST. A. OAKEY.

### **PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL**

MISS J. B. TOMKINSON.

The REV. H. A. McCANN.

\*ALDERMAN F. WISE.

\* County Councillors



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1955

## SOUTH OXFORDSHIRE COMBINED DISTRICTS

*To the Mayor, Chairmen, Aldermen and Councillors of the Constituent  
Authorities.*

My Lord, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I take pleasure in submitting my fifth Annual Report, on the state of the public health in the South Oxfordshire Combined Districts during 1955, incorporating the information required by Circular 17/55 of the Ministry of Health.

## ABBREVIATIONS

C.D. Combined Districts. E.W. England and Wales. L.A. Local Authority. The Ministry means the appropriate Ministry, i.e., The Ministry of Health or the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. M.O.H. Medical Officer of Health. R.D. Rural District. R.G. Registrar General. S.I. Sanitary Inspector. U.D. Urban District.

## DISTRIBUTION OF THE REPORT

The Joint Committee agreed in 1954 that one doctor in each firm of doctors practising in the area should thenceforth receive a copy of this Annual Report, a step which I most warmly welcomed. Alas! It has thus far yielded a nil-return. In spite of my inviting criticism and comment none has been forthcoming (to me, at any rate!), and I still do not know whether practitioners (who, with a few chronic exceptions, appear interested in Preventive Medicine) appreciate the report, dislike it or just throw it unread into the waste-paper basket. My telephone numbers appear on page 1 of the report.

THREE QUESTIONS ABOUT THE REPORT which I have been asked by Committee Members.

### 1. *Why is it necessary?*

An M.O.H. is statutorily bound, by the terms of his appointment, to produce a yearly report about the state of the Public Health of his area. This report must contain certain information specified by the Minister and it is directed that the report may also contain the M.O.H.'s comments on any matters relating to the health and welfare of the inhabitants.

The Annual Report, although addressed formally to the Councillors of the constituent Local Authorities, is read not only by them (often, it seems, it isn't read by them at all!) but, in conjunction with scores of similar reports from the M.O.s.H. of other Local Authorities, presents to the Minister an overall picture of changing health habits and conditions throughout the country as a whole. These reports should be

the most valuable pointer in shaping the future health policy at national level. Moreover, they are preserved so that future generations will be able to learn how we lived in the Muddle Ages, and why we died. Wouldn't the Annual Report of the M.O.H. of the City of London for the year A.D. 1655 be vastly interesting and instructive to sanitarians now? Except that had the City of London had an M.O.H. in those days there might well not have *been* any Plague. By the same token, medical historians three hundred years hence (if we haven't long before that sterilised or atomised ourselves by fooling with forces which even the scientists admit they don't understand) will discover with a mixture of pity and incredulity that in 1955 a comprehensive law about the cleanliness of our very food was yet to come into operation, that many villages were still unsewered and drew their water from wells known to be polluted, and that a readily preventible disease called Tuberculosis was still causing over 6000 deaths a year up and down the country.

## 2. *Why does it cost so much?*

The cost of publishing this annual report has now progressively risen (like the cost of everything else) until the last bill was over £180 and notice has been received that owing to further wage-awards this issue will cost even more than that. At the April 1956 Joint Committee meeting (attended by a total of four of the fifteen members, covering two out of the six authorities) a resolution was passed calling for the most drastic reduction (three-fifths) in the number of copies printed. This would have meant that not even the members of the constituent authorities' Public Health Committees would have received a copy of the record of the year's health work in their own district for information or reference. Fortunately this most retrograde step was avoided when it was discovered that the called-for reduction of 60% in the number of copies would result in a saving of less than 5% in expense (about the cost of the paper and ink), and the constituent authorities thereupon voted to continue as before.

The high cost of the report is due not to the number of copies printed but to the complexity of the printed matter. It might be imagined what with pre-set tables in which only the digits require alteration from year to year, the expense would not be great. But a number of factors, apart from constantly rising wages and prices, militate against pegging the cost. It requires only a change in the parish boundaries such as has occurred recently both in the Henley and Bullingdon R.D.s to necessitate altering the make-up of perhaps a dozen tables, or the introduction of a new or revised form by the Ministry (such as that for Rodent Control) to alter the pagination and perhaps cause a spread-over entailing three blank pages per copy, the whole being made up in sections of four pages. The actual matter of the report tends continually to increase as more and more work devolves on the Health Departments



and must be recorded — witness recent extensions of the LAs' duties in regard to milk, meat-inspection and slum clearance. New and far-reaching Food Regulations come into force in 1956.

Doubtless a bare-bones report might be produced for less, although I have already had the report printed on cheaper paper. The present basic lay-out was devised in 1950 by Dr. Davy and was, without question, an immeasurable improvement on its wartime predecessors which were necessarily of the skeletal type referred to above. Dr. Davy believed, and I whole-heartedly agree, that an M.O.H.'s report should contain all the relevant information available. The question of publishing six separate reports is not likely to prove cheaper.

The present combined product of a penny rate for the area is over £3000 so this report as it stands involves about one-fifteenth of a penny on the rates or, put another way, is produced for well under a ha'penny a year per inhabitant.

### 3. *Why is it so late?*

It has been said that a report which does not come out until the autumn of the year following that which it chronicles is historical rather than topical. There is some truth in this, but I don't see how it can be avoided.

In the first place, this is a composite report and when one of the six authorities delays in sending me the required material I have small option but to sit and wait and curse.

Secondly, I believe that the health of the C.D. has more significance when yardsticked against that of the country as a whole. Certain figures, notably the death-rates from individual diseases in EW, have to be calculated from the first quarterly return following the year in question, and this is not delivered from the Registrar General until July.

Thirdly, printing delays. Even though the material is in the printers' hands towards the end of July I do not receive copies for distribution before the late autumn.

## AND ANOTHER THING

Some members go even further in their crusade for economy and ask *Why do we need a Preventive Medicine Service at all?*

A member recently said to me 'The trouble with Public Health, doctor, is that nothing ever seems to *happen* much nowadays, does it, really?' That, of course, was the nicest compliment he could have paid the Public Health Service (though I'm sure it wasn't meant quite that way!), a tribute to the fact that, in the C.D. at any rate, the wheels turn so smoothly that not even the purr of the engine can be heard.

Most criticism of the Public Health Service is based on the suggestions that although such a service may have been necessary in the past the public is no longer getting value for money, that the danger

of epidemics exists no more and that the 'Drain-sniffing' and 'Nuisance-mongering' could be coped with more cheaply by non-medical personnel. I believe nothing could be further from truth or common-sense.

*The argument that Preventive Medicine is outmoded because we no longer suffer disastrous outbreaks of cholera or typhoid is as fallacious and dangerous as to remove the fence round a tiger's cage because the tiger now looks too tame and sleepy to attack.*

Over vast areas of Asia and Africa, where the tiger has never been caged at all, such scourges as Plague, Malaria, Yellow Fever and Sleeping Sickness still take a fearful toll of human life, and the last war showed that the recrudescence in Europe of epidemic dysentery, enteric fever and even typhus was all too feasible.

Nor can we console ourselves with the thought that the virulence of Infectious Disease is growing less. With some, such as Scarlet Fever, it for the moment undoubtedly is; with others, equally it is not. Asiatic Smallpox, on the rare occasions when it slips through the *cordon sanitaire* proves as lethal as it used to be, and while only 169 cases of Diphtheria (the lowest figure ever) were recorded in EW during 1955, 13 of these cases proved fatal, giving a fatality rate of 77 per 1000 cases which, if not the highest ever tabled, is uncomfortably near it and certainly high enough to demand our fear and respect.

There are two alternatives to the present Public Health Service set-up. You can abolish it, let things rip and hope for the best, or you can try to find someone else to carry out the M.O.H.'s job at less salary.

If you did the first, you would assuredly get epidemics of water-borne, milk-borne, faeces-borne, fly-borne, and rodent-borne diseases. Such diseases include Dysentery, Typhoid, the deadly Infantile Diarrhoea, Food Poisoning. Tuberculosis, at last on the run, would spread because of the discontinuance of the checking of contacts and falling off in B.C.G. vaccination. Diphtheria might be expected to raise its horrible head once more on the abandonment of Local Authorities' immunisation schemes, Maternal Deaths, now near rock-bottom largely because of the midwifery service, would be one of the first to increase if this service were curtailed in any way. In a matter of months, possibly only of weeks, the loss to the country in cold hard cash would exceed by far the salary of its health departments; in terms of human suffering the bill would be incalculable.

Find someone else not only to carry out the job but carry it out more cheaply. Ah! The G.P.s. But unfortunately the G.P.s are overworked already. Recently the B.M.A. put forward the claim that they are also underpaid. Quite apart from this, the G.P. is a clinician; he has only a partial knowledge of the problems of Preventive Medicine for which a special diploma is laid down by law. The interest of patient and community would often conflict. What would happen if a woman went into labour and a case of typhoid were reported twenty miles away at one and the same time?



No, there is no alternative. Preventive Medicine moreover is never static. It not only holds the ground it has won but reaches out to wider fields. We must be very careful that having abolished or tamed the epidemic disasters we do not succumb to other, subtler enemies — smoke-pollution, noise, worry, avoidable accidents, marriages wrecked through ignorance of the most elementary knowledge of the human body and mind. All these are battlefields for the M.O.H. of the future.

### VITAL STATISTICS

(a) POPULATION. The home population of the Combined Districts as estimated by the Registrar General at mid-year 1955, showed an increase of 2670 on the 1954 figures, reaching a new high level of 104,680.

It will be seen that the increase was general throughout the districts with the exception of Thame whose estimated population remained stationary.

	Areas in Acres	Population	Compared with 1954	Density per Acre
Henley Borough ...	1,416	8,010	+ 20	5.66
Bicester U.D. ...	1,679	4,720	+ 180	2.81
Thame U.D. ...	3,140	3,710	No change	1.18
Bullingdon R.D. ...	91,618	38,770	+1130	.42
Henley R.D. ...	53,297	20,450	+ 180	.39
Ploughley R.D. ...	79,911	29,020	+1160	.36
TOTAL ...	231,061	104,680	+2670	.45

The total population is contained in just over 360 square miles, giving a density of 291 persons to the square mile, or .45 persons per acre, ranging from Henley Borough with a density of 5.66 persons per acre to Ploughley R.D. with .36 persons per acre.

### (b) LIVE BIRTHS.

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Live Birth Rate per 1000
Male	60	50	40	361	152	244	907	
Female	60	47	33	335	159	215	849	
TOTAL	120	97	73	696	311	459	1756	16.8

(Live Birth Rate per 1000: England and Wales 15.0)

(c) STILL BIRTHS

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Per 1000 total (live & still) births
Male	1	1	1	9	2	6	20	
Female	1	3	—	8	5	4	21	
TOTAL	2	4	1	17	7	10	41	23.4

(Still Birth Rate per 1000 total births: England and Wales 23.1)

(d) DEATHS.

	Henley Bor- ough	Bices- ter U.D.	Thame U.D.	Bull- ingdon R.D.	Henley R.D.	Plough- ley R.D.	Combined Districts	
							Total	Per 1000 Popula- tion
Male	57	13	30	191	107	103	501	
Female	65	23	17	173	89	84	451	
TOTAL	122	36	47	364	196	187	952	9.1

(Death rate per 1000 population: England and Wales 11.7)

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR  
GENERAL IN THE COMBINED DISTRICTS AS A WHOLE

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per- centage of the total	Order of fre- quency	Death rate per 1000 population Combined Districts		England and Wales
1. Tuberculosis, respira- tory ... ..	6	2	8	.840	=19	0.08		0.13
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	1	1	2	.210	=28	0.02		0.02
3. Syphilitic disease ...	6		6	.630	=22	0.06		0.03
4. Diphtheria ... ..						Nil		0.00†
5. Whooping Cough ...						Nil		0.00†
6. Meningococcal infec- tions ... ..						Nil		0.00†
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...						Nil		0.01
8. Measles ... ..						Nil		0.00†
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1	4	5	.525	25	0.05		0.02
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach ... ..	15	9	24	2.520	10	0.23		0.33
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	14	1	15	1.575	15	0.14		0.39
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast ... ..		13	13	1.260	=16	0.12		0.20
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus... ..		6	6	.630	=22	0.06		0.09
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm...	39	42	81	8.610	5	0.77		1.04
15. Leukaemia, aleukae- mia ... ..	1	2	3	.315	27	0.03		0.05
16. Diabetes ... ..	3	5	8	.840	=19	0.08		0.08
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	61	86	147	15.435	1	1.40		1.71
18. Coronary disease, an- gina ... ..	78	51	129	13.545	2	1.23		1.59
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	10	11	21	2.105	12	0.20		0.29
20. Other heart disease ...	66	72	138	14.490	3	1.32		1.95
21. Other circulatory dis- ease ... ..	25	18	43	4.515	7	0.41		0.59
22. Influenza ... ..	1	5	6	.630	=22	0.06		0.07
23. Pneumonia ... ..	29	27	56	5.880	6	0.53		0.48
24. Bronchitis ... ..	28	9	37	3.885	8	0.35		0.66
25. Other diseases of res- piratory system ...	6	1	7	.735	21	0.07		0.12
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..	7	6	13	1.365	=16	0.12		0.13
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ... ..	1	1	2	.210	=28	0.02		0.05
28. Nephritis and nephro- sis ... ..	7	6	13	1.365	=16	0.12		0.11
29. Hyperplasia of pros- tate ... ..	4		4	.420	26	0.04		0.09
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..		1	1	.105	30	0.01		0.10
31. Congenital malforma- tions ... ..	6	11	17	1.785	13	0.16		0.10
32. Other defined and ill- defined diseases ...	39	43	82	8.610	4	0.78		0.81
33. Motor vehicle acci- dents ... ..	25	2	27	2.835	9	0.26		0.11
34. All other accidents ...	11	11	22	2.310	11	0.21		0.26
35. Suicide ... ..	11	5	16	1.680	14	0.15		0.12
36. Homicide and opera- tions of war ... ..						Nil		0.01
ALL CAUSES ...	501	451	952 (*677)	99.9 (*71.1)		9.1		11.7

\*Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

†A rate of 0.00 does not indicate that no deaths occurred (Nil being then the term) but only that the number of deaths was not significant to two places of decimals per thousand, i.e. less than 5 per million.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There has been a staggering reduction in the maternal mortality rate throughout the country (in which the C.D. have shared to the full) during the last twenty years. In 1935 the maternal mortality rate for E.W. was 5.29 per thousand total (live and still) births; by 1955 this figure was reduced, by steady declensions, to 0.64.



There was one death in the C.D. during the year from maternal causes, giving a maternal mortality rate of 0.56. Over the last decade (1946-55) the average maternal mortality rate in the C.D. was 0.37. In a total of over 16,000 confinements only 6 mothers lost their lives.

*This is a record of which any authority should justly be proud, and it reflects the greatest credit on the maternity service provided for us by the Oxfordshire County Council. It makes maternity 99.96% safe.*

#### NEONATAL MORTALITY (Death in the first four weeks)

27 deaths under four weeks occurred as opposed to 22 in 1954, but the rise in the rate from 15.2 to 15.4 deaths per 1000 live births still leaves the figure considerably below the national one which, for 1955, was 17.3.

#### INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year)

This was also slightly up, from 38 to 42, and the rate from 22.6 to 23.3 per 1000 live births. The E.W. rate was 24.9.

#### MORTALITY IN GENERAL

The death rate from all causes in the C.D. was 9.1 as against 8.6 for 1954, but the national rate also rose slightly from 11.3 to 11.7. Reference to the table on p. 9 shows that 45% of the C.D. deaths were from heart disease and that 1 in 10 occurred from diseases of the chest.

*Cancer deaths:* There was a drop in cancer deaths in the year amounting to 19% and shared by five out of the six authorities. The rate is considerably lower than the 1954 rate (1.35 per 1000 of the population as compared with 1.75), but this is almost certainly a chance variation and, unfortunately, is unlikely to be the herald of a steady decline. The rates for the past six years in the C.D. have been 1.64, 1.53, 1.63, 1.39, 1.75 and 1.35. In E.W. the 1955 and 1954 rates were 2.10 and 2.04 respectively.

*Deaths from violence:* These in the C.D. showed a sharp increase, from 5.06% of the total deaths (1954) to 6.83% (1955). 2.84% of all deaths recorded in the C.D. in 1955 occurred on the roads. 2.31% were due to other accidents and 1.68% were due to suicide. Without having any evidence to support such a proposal I cannot help wondering whether road deaths might not be materially reduced by making it compulsory for all drivers to carry modified L plates for six months after passing the driving test.

With regard to other accidents, particularly those caused by and involving children, and above all burns and scalds, there is a growing feeling that their avoidance is one of the functions of Preventive Medicine. Some of the ways in which this can be helped are by propaganda on films, film-strips, radio and TV, by articles in the press and magazines (particularly womens' magazines), by lectures to parents,



by collaboration with the retailers of such potentially dangerous articles as pots and pans, irons, kettles and, of course, cookers, by having guards in front of all open fires and around paraffin-heaters, by the choosing of children's clothing of the least inflammable materials, by campaigns in schools analagous to the Road Safety campaigns and, probably the most important of all, by the abatement of overcrowding and the provision of adequate kitchens.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES—other than Tuberculosis (see p. 14)

DISEASE	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter	Totals for Year	Incidence per 1000 population	
						S. Oxon Combined Districts	England and Wales
Scarlet Fever	19	8	3	10	40	0.36	0.76
Whooping Cough	34	21	24	10	89	0.85	1.82
Measles	50	900	439	147	1536	13.82	15.96
Pneumonia	36	13	3	7	59	0.53	0.64
Meningococcal Infection	2	2	—	—	4	0.04	0.03
Malaria (Therapeutically induced)	1	—	—	—	1	0.01	†0.00
Poliomyelitis: Paralytic Non-Paralytic	—	—	6	6	12	0.11	0.09
	—	1	1	2	4	0.04	0.06
	TOTAL	1	7	8	16	0.15	0.15
Opthalmia Neonatorum	—	1	—	—	1	0.01	0.04
Dysentery	8	7	7	14	36	0.32	0.84
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	—	3	6	0.05	0.28
Food Poisoning	—	3	5	2	10	0.09	0.29
Erysipelas	3	2	2	2	9	0.08	0.11
TOTALS	154	960	490	203	1807	16.30	*20.92

† A rate of 0.00 does not indicate that no case occurred (NIL being then the term) but only that the number of cases occurring was not significant to two places of decimals per thousand, i.e. less than 5 per million.

\* The E. W. overall total is very slightly higher (20.95 per 1,000) as it contains cases of diphtheria, acute encephalitis—infective and post infectious—typhoid and typhus fevers no case of any of which was recorded throughout the C.D. in 1955.

On the whole, a good year.

SCARLET FEVER. Only two thirds as many cases as last year and all of the same mild type. Many practitioners feel that the disease is now so slight that its notification is pointless and onerous. Be that as it may (and two years ago a meeting of the Society of Medical Officers of Health voted for the retention of notification), it is anomalous to make no provision for the notification of streptococcal sore throat which is only scarlet fever without the rash, is in many cases much more severe than scarlet fever and has just as high a complication-rate, notably in nephritis (inflammation of the kidneys) and rheumatic heart disease.

WHOOPING COUGH. Here, a tremendous drop, from 287 to 89.

It is tempting, but unsafe, to ascribe this to whooping-cough inoculation. The notifications for the years 1950-55 have been respectively 153, 383, 91, 463, 287 and 89. The whooping-cough inoculation scheme was started in the County in 1953, so no definite pattern has yet emerged. On the other hand, it is established that whooping-cough vaccination very much diminishes the severity and duration of any subsequent attack. Those who remember the distress which children used to suffer as a result of this illness, often for months, will need no persuasion about inoculation.

MEASLES. The expected biennial upward swing. The two-yearly pendulum is well illustrated in the C.D. by the figures from 1950-55 which were respectively 393, 1350, 454, 2387, 28, 1536.

POLIOMYELITIS. There was a sharp rise, 12 cases being notified (as opposed to 2 in 1954), three-quarters of them being of the paralytic type. Polio vaccination has now (1956) been started by the County Council on the limited scale laid down by the Ministry. This is a beginning, but we must not pretend that protection, in the sense of the protection we can give against diphtheria and small-pox, has yet been achieved. What we can believe is that this vaccine is safe and gives some measure of protection and that eventually vaccine treatment will be perfected. That is an enormous stride forward.

FOOD POISONING. Ten cases were notified during the year. Of these, six were from a single R.D. and three of the districts had no cases at all. Each of the ten cases occurred in a different family and no connection could be traced between any of them. While the figure was low, therefore, the actual foci of infection were more numerous than in any year since 1949, when the notification of such cases by M.Os.H to the R.G. was started.

As usual, *Salmonella typhimurium* (the so-called Mouse Typhoid, although the mouse is far from being the only animal which can carry it) was the most frequent culprit, being responsible for 6 of the 10 cases. Rarer *Salmonellae* (*S. takoradi* and *S. enteritidis*) were identified in two other cases; in one no organism could be found and the last, occurring in a service-man home on leave, showed a *Staphylococcus*, probably from a carrier in the cookhouse having infected a custard, a very common cause of this type of Food Poisoning.

#### SMOKE-SCREENS AND PIPE-DREAMS

During the year there has been a steady campaign to play-down the repeatedly and abundantly proven relationship between tobacco-smoking and the development of cancer of the lung. Certain sections of the national press which regularly carry lucrative tobacco-advertising have inferred that the doctors are poking their interfering noses into what does not concern them and are trying to shoot a scare into



the public, though for what purpose, unless it be sheer malevolence, is not made clear.

People will not face the fact that something they like doing, or are unable to help doing, can really be harmful. While accepting without question the fact that smog and smoke-pollution can damage the lungs they wishfully-think that the smoke they hourly drag into their lungs from much closer range, and which contains agents proved capable of starting cancer, is not really dangerous. They *like* tobacco-smoke.

Scarcely a Public Health Committee has passed in the last year without some member triumphantly cracking at me that in spite of what I said in my annual report he is still smoking and still hasn't contracted lung-cancer. Why, I am asked, do doctors themselves smoke? The answer surely is that doctors find it no easier to break such a habit than do the rest of the community. And, alas, doctors too die of cancer of the lung. I have also been asked how many cigarettes or how much pipe-tobacco it is 'safe to smoke'. The answer is that it is never safe to smoke, but that each additional unit of tobacco consumed, daily, increases the risk. In any case, smokers' estimates of how much they smoke are notoriously optimistic. More wishful-thinking!

The stranglehold which tobacco has on the 'civilized' world was tragically revealed at the end of the last war when that 'civilization' virtually collapsed over a large part of Europe. Food, drink, furniture, virtue, heirlooms, anything and everything became purchasable in units of tobacco, the new ubiquitous currency. Half the unrest in our gaols today is said to be due to tobacco-trafficking within the prison walls. Tobacco is a vast industry. An army of people are constantly at work processing, advertising, transporting, distributing and retailing the drug. It provides a colossal tax-revenue, easily collected, inescapable. In short, it is the golden egg with the public in the role of helpless goose. Perhaps then it is not very strange, though it is certainly shocking, that attempts to extract from the Minister an assurance that he would at least consider a campaign to warn teenagers against the dangers of starting to smoke have so far met an evasive and tepid response.

No one but a half-wit is going to suggest, or ever has suggested, that smoking is the *only* factor involved in the causation of lung-cancer, that *every* smoker, or even every heavy smoker, will *ipso facto* develop the disease or that non-smokers never develop it. On the other hand, every parent who does not do his utmost to dissuade his children from forming the addiction must face his conscience with the knowledge that if his children do become heavy smokers they are twenty times more likely to develop and die of lung-cancer than if they had never smoked. In 1955 there were 4902 deaths on the road

5837 people died from	} Total
Lung Tuberculosis	
	10,739

Deaths from Lung-Cancer outstripped this combination by nearly 70% *There were 17,271 Deaths from Lung-Cancer.*

## TUBERCULOSIS

*B.C.G. Vaccinations:* As foreshadowed in my 1954 report, B.C.G. vaccination of 13-14 year old school children was begun during 1955, and proceeded satisfactorily, over 11,000 children in the County receiving the vaccine. There was a very high conversion rate (98.9%) which means that that figure had developed antibodies in the blood against the Tuberculosis germ. The only complications noted were one transient skin rash and one case of an ulcer developing at the site of injection which soon responded to treatment.

*The Annual Figures:* (See p. 16) The notified rate of incidence in the C.D. for 1955 was lower than ever — 0.77 cases per 1000 of the population as against 0.95 in 1954. The E.W. rate for 1955 was 1.00.

The death rate was very slightly raised (0.10 as against 0.09 in 1954) The E.W. rate was almost twice this figure, 0.18 for both years.

81 new cases were notified within the area, as opposed to 96 in 1954. Of these 81, 67 were pulmonary and 14 non-pulmonary. While with present-day methods of treatment a high percentage of these can be expected to make a good recovery, none of them — or certainly none of the *pulmonary* cases — should have occurred in the first place.

*Spread:* Lung Tuberculosis can only continue to exist because one active case directly infects the next either by breath or spittle. The number of pulmonary cases contracted from infected milk in these days of increasing pasteurisation and T.T. herds must be very small.

Our police have full powers to arrest anyone carrying an offensive weapon 'with intent' but such a criminal isn't nearly so lethal in the long run as an infectious case of Consumption. He may kill once, conceivably twice; the 'open' case of Lung TB puts at risk every single person with whom he or she comes into close contact.

Probably the most dangerous character of all is dear old \*granny who for years has been 'a bit bronikal', who has never, in her life, bless her, had a doctor (doesn't believe in 'em) and who wouldn't, of course, hold with such new fanglements as them mass extra-rays. Everyone in the village loves dear, quaint, obstinate old granny and passes the time of day with her. Cough, cough, cough. Year in, year out, granny has been an absolute shower — of infection. She dies of a stroke at a ripe old age and everyone mourns her including the two or three (happily recovered) cases of TB which occurred so strangely in the village, seemingly out of nowhere. She will be welcomed where she's gone by little Johnnie who so inexplicably died of TB meningitis — where on earth could he have picked it up? Always loved Gran, did Johnnie, round at her place every day and she always kissed him goodbye — more literally than either of them realized.

\* This does not refer to any specific granny — certainly not yours.



*Compulsory Mass-Radiography*: This has already been carried out in Australia. Dr. P. S. Woodruff of Adelaide, South Australia, quoted in 'The Medical Officer' of March 16th, 1956, gives the following information.

'Because of the poor response of the general public to X-ray surveys and because of the difficulty of persuading a few infectious patients to take proper precautions for safeguarding the health of others, new legislation was passed in 1951, aimed at more effective control of tuberculosis.

Under this legislation, the Minister of Health became empowered "to order that any groups or classes of persons shall submit themselves to examination of the chest by X-ray."

The Act also empowered the Director-General of Public Health if he "is satisfied that there are reasonable grounds for suspecting that any person is suffering from tuberculosis" to require that individual to undergo further diagnostic examination.

A third section of the Act stated that "if a special magistrate is satisfied that any person suffering from tuberculosis is in an infectious condition and that the circumstances in which the person is living or the habits of the patient are such that there is a substantial risk that he will cause infection to other persons, he may order that the person be removed to an institution or to some other place agreed upon by the patient and the Director-General and be detained and offered treatment there for such period not exceeding six months as the special magistrate orders".

In six surveys since then, made under the new legislation, the attendances compared to previous voluntary surveys, have increased by between 113 and 114 per cent. "*The people have accepted compulsory surveys readily, as a reasonable civic duty and a valuable public health service*". (Italics mine H.M.-W.)

What objection is there to it in this country? The sacred right of every British citizen to object on principle to anything and everything — to object to the banning of the sale of air-pistols with which kids so expertly shoot out each others' eyes, and knuckledusters and coshes with which at an early age they can learn to beat each other up, to object to diphtheria immunisation or small-pox vaccination or to their children seeing the doctor or dentist.

Response to voluntary mass-radiography, in the rural areas at all events, has not been encouraging —  $33\frac{1}{3}\%$  being about the average. Whether this is due to inertia or to a more positive feeling of resistance is not easy to determine.

The task of providing sufficient mass-radiography units with trained personnel would be formidable (though a fleabite compared with the expense of a Hydrogen-bomb). What might be achieved?

The average discovery of cases of Lung Tuberculosis by Mass-Radiography of the population over 15 is about 2 per 1000 subjects photographed. This means that in the whole population above 15 some 40,000 new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis would in 1955 have been discovered in addition to the 30,000 cases notified through the ordinary channels.

On this basis the 1955 figures of adult new cases in the C.D. instead of being 60 would have been in the region of 140.

Undoubtedly a large number of concealed cases lie at present among those who suspect yet dare not be told that they have Tuberculosis. These would be the most adamant of all in objecting to compulsory Mass-Radiography. How far is the nation justified in considering them

TUBERCULOSIS 1955 AND 1954  
SOUTH OXON COMBINED DISTRICTS

Type	Cases on register including cases and at end of the year					Differ- ence over the year	Incidence Rate per 1000 population		Death Rate	
	New cases		Transfers in		Transfers out and recovered cases		C.D.	England and Wales	C.D.	England and Wales
Pulmonary ... ..	765 (671)	67 (79)	78=145 (53) (132)	43 (47)	8 = 51 (7) (54)	+94 (+78)	0.64 (0.78)	0.87 (0.87)	0.08 (0.07)	0.16 (0.16)
Non-pulmonary ... ..	109 (95)	14 (17)	8 = 22 (7) (24)	6 (7)	2 = 8 (2) (9)	+14 (+15)	0.13 (0.17)	0.13 (0.13)	0.02 (0.02)	0.02 (0.02)
TOTAL ... ..	874 (766)	81 (96)	86=167 (60) (156)	49 (54)	10 = 59 (9) (63)	+108 (+93)	0.77 (0.95)	1.00 (1.00)	0.10 (0.09)	0.18 (0.18)

1954 figures in brackets



as against the probability of their infecting others? The only answer, harsh though it may seem to the individual, should be that the health and safety of the community must always come first.

### CAN'T AFFORD IT

Let us take the case of \*John Smith. He is in his early thirties, happily married with four young children. He is a skilled worker, has a good job and being an independent type is buying a house in the charming Oxford suburb of Muchless. He is paying off instalments on the tele, on the motor-bike which takes him to and from his work, on a sewing machine for the wife to make the kids' clothes, and there are still payments outstanding on the furniture. Pretty heavy commitments, but he makes a good wage, his skill is in demand for the export-drive, and he doesn't see why the missus and he shouldn't have the things his pals have — all helps to keep the wheels of industry turning.

Until recently his future seemed assured, but for the last few months he has been feeling fagged-out at the end of the day and he has developed a tickling cough. He tries to cut out smoking but this makes him so irritable that his wife implores him to start it again. He doesn't sleep well at night and when he does drop off wakes, as often as not, in a bath of sweat. Secretly he weighs himself; he has lost six pounds in as many months.

John Smith is no fool. He knows that all these could be symptoms of Lung Tuberculosis. One day he sees a poster advertising the coming of the Mass Radiography Unit to his district. Suppose he goes and is photographed and his fears are confirmed? He'd get cured all right, he has even heard that in certain cases it is possible to be treated at home. But suppose he isn't one of them and it means the San or an operation on his chest? He dares not take the risk of being put off work. Sickness-benefit is all very well when you're only away for a week or so. Just a bit of bad, and the hire-purchase people will probably postpone the instalments that long. But suppose it were six months, or even more? How would the wife and kids get by?

The Mass Radiography comes and goes and John Smith goes on hoping against hope that there's nothing seriously wrong with him, though of course he dare not consult his doctor. Six months later he has a lung haemorrhage. His case is now twice as serious as it would have been if he had been to the Mass Radiography in the first place. Can we blame him?

### THE ANSWER

Is there an answer? I think there is, and that it is a very simple one. John Smith must be paid compensation, *real* compensation based on

\* This is a fictitious name.

what he has been earning, compensation that will let him go to hospital easy in his mind; and a clause must by law be inserted in every Hire-Purchase agreement that all payments must be postponed while the purchaser is off work through sickness. Doubtless the funds of the National Health and the National Insurance wouldn't run to it — though that I take leave to doubt, having regard to the ultimate saving which must result from the shorter treatment necessary for cases discovered in the early stages, from their quicker return to work and financial independence and from the avoidance of their being responsible, like granny, for an unknown number of secondary cases. Besides, are we not, as a nation, past-masters in the art of fiddling Peter to square Paul? The raids on the Road Fund, the B.B.C., and the Post Office surplus show useful precedents.

With potential cases insured against hardship and loss the argument against compulsory Mass Radiography (if indeed there ever was a valid one) disappears. And if we could lay our hands on all the cases in their early stage TB would disappear in a generation, perhaps in a decade.

### FOOD HANDLERS

A similar problem, if on a lesser scale, occurs when an M.O.H. has, under the National Insurance Act 1948 to certify that a certain person must discontinue Food Handling. Such certificates refer principally to milkers who are known to have been in contact with scarlet fever, are discovered to be carrying the germ in their nose or throat and are working on farms whose milk is not pasteurised; or to workers in kitchens, canteens or food premises who are found to have picked up an intestinal germ such as that of Dysentery or Food Poisoning without themselves showing evidence of illness. The person or persons concerned seldom appreciate why, because someone else in the family has been ill, *they* should suddenly have to stop work at the order of some official they have never before seen. They are not entitled to sick pay and must appeal to the National Assistance Board, which to the older generation at all events, smacks of charity. Worse than this, the National Assistance Board is not empowered to pay them the wage they have been earning or even an amount on which they can live. The majority of such cases, it is true, respond rapidly to medical treatment — though some become so chronic that they have to change their job. In any case they have to undertake the unpleasant task of providing faeces samples and are usually interviewed by the sanitary inspector. When they not unnaturally ask 'Who's going to pay me?' the M.O.H. can only refer them to the National Assistance Officer with the result quoted above. Altogether, conditions are not such as to elicit their willing co-operation and they have every reason to conceal rather than volunteer the fact that they have been in contact with infection. Once bitten, twice shy. The only real answer is full compensation.



## HOUSING

TABLE 1. Permanent housing.

433 permanent dwellings were erected throughout the district in 1955 by the six L.A.s, as against 2624 housing applications. By the end of the year the list of applicants had dropped to 2131.

The average number of L.A. houses erected annually, post-war, is 296, but the average has risen in the past three years to just over 400.

439 permanent dwellings were erected in the area by private enterprise during 1955.

There was an increase of 6 per cent in L.A. building compared with 1954 but a decrease of 22 per cent in private enterprise building, giving an overall decrease of 10 per cent. The figures for each constituent authority may be obtained from the table, whence it will be seen that each of the six authorities has during the year materially reduced its waiting list. The total L.A. picture is of 6 per cent more houses and 19 per cent less applications. At the present rate of building, the housing problem should be solved<sup>1</sup> five years from now. This, however, is only an *average* figure, and 3 of the 6 authorities will each require over 7 years more to complete their task at their present rate.

TABLE 2: Moveable dwellings

(a) HUTS:

Of the four authorities which still had these units of sub-standard housing, Henley Borough within the year reduced the number by 85%, Ploughley R.D. by 82%, Bullingdon R.D. by 37% and Henley R.D. by 26%. The size of the problem which remains can be judged from the accompanying table (p. 21).

(b) CARAVANS:

I can discover nothing further to say on this subject and would refer the reader to the material in Dr. Davy's report for 1950 (reprinted 1951) and mine for 1952, 1953, and 1954.

### POST-WAR HOUSING SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES THROUGHOUT THE AREA. 1949 and 1955

#### WATER SUPPLY

In 1949 69.9%	of the properties in the area had a mains water supply
1955 86.4%	of the properties in the area had a mains water supply.
1949 29.4%	of the properties in the area were dependent on wells.
1955 13.1%	of the properties in the area were dependent on wells.

<sup>1</sup> Alas! Since this was written has come the credit squeeze!

# HOUSING

TABLE 1—Permanent Housing

	1955 1954 figures in brackets			1955 expressed as a percentage of 1954				Post-war period (1945-1955)			Houses built per 1,000 popula- tion
	Permanent Houses erected in 1955 and (in brackets) in 1954			Applications for Council houses	Permanent Houses completed			Houses built by		Popula- tion (Mean Annual)	
	Local authority 1	Private building 2	Com- bined 1 and 2		Local author- ity 3	Private building 4	Com- bined 3 and 4	Local Author- ity	Private Build- ing		
Henley Borough ...	57 (30)	5 (12)	62 (42)	71	190	42	148	343	65	8269	49
Bicester U.D. ...	66 (42)	17 (3)	83 (45)	96	157	567	162	280	36	4194	75
Thame U.D. ...	10 (10)	4 (3)	14 (13)	66	100	133	108	145	27	3569	48
Bullington R.D. ...	122 (146)	101 (124)	223 (270)	92	84	81	83	1004	438	32064	45
Henley R.D. ...	43 (39)	98 (111)	141 (150)	84	110	88	94	455	447	19550	46
Ploughley R.D. ...	135 (140)	214 (212)	349 (352)	46	96	99	99	1028	665	21773	78
S. Oxon Combined Districts	433 (407)	439 (565)	872 (972)	81	106	78	90	3255	1678	89381	55



HOUSING  
TABLE 2—Moveable Dwellings

	Huts		Caravans		Huts and Caravans	
	In occupation 1955 and (in brackets) 1954	1955 expressed As a percentage of 1954	In occupation 1955 and (in brackets) 1954	1955 expressed as a percentage of 1954	In occupation 1955 and (in brackets) 1954	1955 expressed as a percentage of 1954
Henley Borough      ...      ...	6 (40)	15	48 (48)	100	54 (88)	61
Bicester U.D.      ...      ...	0 (0)	—	2 (2)	100	2 (2)	100
Thame U.D.      ...      ...	0 (0)	—	9 (9)	100	9 (9)	100
Bullington R.D.      ...      ...	202 (319)	63	479 (468)	102	681 (787)	87
Henley R.D.      ...      ...	103 (139)	74	225 (195)	116	328 (334)	98
Ploughley R.D.      ...      ...	5 (28)	18	98 (79)	124	103 (107)	97
South Oxon Combined Districts      ...      ...	316 (526)	60	861 (801)	107	1177 (1327)	89

1949 0.7%	of the properties in the area had no adequate water-supply.
1955 0.5%	of the properties in the area had no adequate water-supply.

## DRAINAGE

In 1949 38%	of the properties in the area were connected to the sewer.
1955 46%	of the properties in the area were connected to the sewer.
1949 24%	of the properties in the area had cesspools.
1955 29%	of the properties in the area had cesspools.
1949 38%	of the properties in the area had unsatisfactory drainage.
1955 25%	of the properties in the area had unsatisfactory drainage.

## HOUSING REPAIR AND RENTS ACT 1954

### Slum Clearance

In response to the Ministry's enquiry the following are the figures given by the constituent authorities for slum clearance areas.

HENLEY BOROUGH	30 properties
BICESTER U.D.	A total of up to 80 properties in 11 possible clearance areas. Inspections to start shortly
THAME U.D.	7 properties

The three R.Ds. have no clearance areas as such which could be dealt with under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936; all their unfit houses will be dealt with as individual unfit dwellings under Section 11 of the Act.

## FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS

These were published towards the end of the year, but as they did not come into force until January 1st (and in some instances until June 30th) 1956, I propose to defer comment on their working until next year.

In the meantime I desire publicly to eat the words I wrote on p. 11 of last year's report. A close study of the regulations reveals that their scope is enormous and almost all-embracing. On the other hand they *are* rather vague on certain points and we shall doubtless need to have recourse to the fine old British system of trial and error and test-cases. We may well have to go to the High Court, for who but a High Court judge could decide whether oranges in their skins, wrapped in tissue paper but displayed in a lidless box are 'open' or pre-packed food?

*(continued on p. 24)*



# SUMMARY: THE YEAR 1955 AS A WHOLE

compared with the five previous years

	COMBINED DISTRICTS						E.W. 1955 (Pro- vis- ional)
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
LIVE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 population. TOTAL	17.1	15.8	16.4	16.4	16.9	16.8	15.0
Legitimate	16.2	14.9	15.8	15.5	16.1	16.1	
Illegitimate	0.9	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.7	
DEATH RATE per 1,000 population	10.1	10.1	9.1	8.4	8.6	9.1	11.7
STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births TOTAL	22.2	15.3	13.1	17.3	16.0	23.4	23.1
Legitimate							
per 1,000 legitimate total births	20.1	16.4	13.2	17.8	15.0	23.3	
Illegitimate							
per 1,000 illegitimate total births	48.8	NIL	12.5	10.5	35.3	12.7	
MATERNAL MORTALITY RATE per 1,000 total (live and still) births	NIL	NIL	0.60	NIL	NIL	0.56	0.64
NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE Deaths under 5 weeks per 1,000 live births TOTAL	14.3	10.4	18.8	<sup>1</sup> 14.0	18.0	15.4	*17.3
Legitimate	13.7	11.0	18.4	13.5	18.2	17.3	
Illegitimate	25.6	NIL	25.3	21.3	12.2	NIL	
INFANT MORTALITY RATE Deaths in the first year of life TOTAL	22.0	16.9	27.9	<sup>2</sup> 23.1	22.6	23.3	*24.9
Legitimate	20.5	16.5	28.0	23.2	23.1	24.4	
Illegitimate	51.3	10.9	25.3	21.3	12.2	12.8	
NOTIFIABLE DISEASES RATE (Excluding Malaria and Tuber- culosis) per 1,000 population	7.4	20.2	8.2	31.7	4.9	16.29	20.95
TUBERCULOSIS Incidence per 1,000 population TOTAL	1.06	1.00	0.85	0.92	0.95	0.77	1.00
Pulmonary	0.83	0.80	0.75	0.74	0.78	0.64	0.87
Non-Pulmonary	0.23	0.20	0.10	0.18	0.17	0.13	0.13
Death Rate per 1,000 population TOTAL	0.19	0.15	0.11	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.18
Pulmonary	0.17	0.13	0.05	0.07	0.07	0.08	0.16
Non-Pulmonary	0.02	0.02	0.06	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02
ILLEGITIMACY RATE <sup>3</sup> Per 100 total births	5.2	5.9	4.8	5.7	4.8	4.4	4.6

\* Per 1,000 *related* live births—i.e. births occurring not during the calendar year 1955, but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.

<sup>1</sup> This figure was incorrectly given in the 1953 report as 13.4.

<sup>2</sup> This figure was incorrectly given in the 1953 report as 23.7.

<sup>3</sup> This figure was incorrectly given in the 1954 report as per 1,000 total births.

(continued from p. 22)

- One thing is sure; the regulations, which contain stringent provisions as to food premises, are going to mean a great deal more work for that man-of-all-work, the Sanitary Inspector.

## LOCAL HIGHLIGHTS DURING THE YEAR

HENLEY BOROUGH	Use of the last five remaining wells in the Borough discontinued. Work on the new sewage plant commenced. Huts reduced from 40 to 6.
BULLINGDON R.D.	Mains water supply completed for 8 parishes (see p. 58). Starting of two sewerage schemes and acceptance by the Ministry of plans for a third (p. 61). Closing of 117 huts (p. 64).
BICESTER U.D.	Completion of 66 new council houses.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 — Section 47

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action under either of these Acts, which relate to the compulsory removal of old and infirm persons who have no one to care for them was, thank goodness, needed during the year.

## GENERAL COMMENT ON THE YEAR

(see summary p. 23)

If there could be such a thing as a dull year in Public Health work, 1955 might apply for the title. Compared with 1954, which was almost an *annus mirabilis*, there is little enough which requires comment. The birth-rate was comfortably higher and the death-rate comfortingly lower than those for E.W. The other figures were also satisfactory, the still birth rate alone being very slightly less favourable than the national one.

## AS BEFORE

I desire to record my appreciation to all my old colleagues (see 1954) for another year's kindness and help and to assure them that only the mounting cost of printing prevents me mentioning them all again by name. I would, nevertheless, like to add a word of thanks to the clerical staffs of the Sanitary Inspectors' offices who have wrestled so valiantly with the complicated tables and returns for which I have asked, never in vain.



Finally, I learn with much regret that my secretary, Mrs. Thompson, will shortly be leaving. I am heavily in her debt for five years' loyalty, cheerful efficiency, (and excellent tea-making). It will be difficult indeed to replace her initiative, energy, memory and tact and I shall particularly miss her eagle eye when the proofs for the next annual report have to be checked,

Until when,

I remain

Your obedient servant

HECTOR MACKENZIE-WINTLE

## MUNICIPAL BOROUGH OF HENLEY-ON-THAMES

## SECTION A

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1416
Population:								
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Population	...							7990
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.55) Home Population	...							8010
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	7970
Number of Inhabited Houses (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2468
(1955)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2530
Rateable Value (1.4.55)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£61180
Product of a Penny Rate (Year ending 31.3.56)						(estimated)		£244

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

Besides the occupations common to most up-river Thames-side towns brewing and light engineering are carried on in the town.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Henley-on-Thames						
Legitimate	...	57	60	117	14.6	
Illegitimate	...	3	—	3	0.4	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	60	60	120	15.0	16.0
		<hr/>				
England and Wales		...	...	...	15.0	

STILL BIRTHS		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Henley-on-Thames						
Legitimate	...	1	1	2	16.8	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	NIL	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	1	1	2	16.4	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales		...	...	...	23.1	

## DEATHS

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Henley-on-Thames	57	65	122	15.2	11.3
England and Wales	...	...	...	11.7	



CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1		1	.82	=15
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...	1		1	.82	=15
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach			2 2 2 9	1.64 1.64 7.38	10.66
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...					
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		2			
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		2			
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	2	7			=4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ...					
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	10	17	27	22.14	1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	12	7	19	15.58	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2	4	6	4.92	=8
20. Other heart disease ...	7	7	14	11.48	3
21. Other circulatory disease ...	3	5	8	6.56	7
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...	4	5	9	7.38	=4
24. Bronchitis ...	5	1	6	4.92	=8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...					
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...		1	1	.82	=15
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...					
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...					
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	4	5	9	7.38	=4
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	3		3	2.46	=10
34. All other accidents ...	1	2	3	2.46	=10
35. Suicide ...	2		2	1.64	=12
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	57	65	122 (*94)	100(*77.38)	

\* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.64 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

## INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

There were 2 female deaths under one year, both in legitimately born children. Of these, one occurred in the first four weeks of life.

	Henley per 1000 live births	England & Wales (per 1000 related live births*)
Infant Mortality Rate	16.7	24.9
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	8.3	17.3 (provisional figure)

## SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum. As the Public Health Laboratory at the Battle Hospital, Reading, is nearer to Henley than the Oxford Laboratory some practitioners prefer to send their specimens there, to be examined by Dr. Wood.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* Water is supplied by the Henley-on-Thames Water Company, Limited, from two bore-holes, each sunk 200 feet into middle chalk. The one at Greys Road, Henley, is 8 inches in diameter, the other at Reading Road, Harpsden, is 12 inches in diameter. Both supplies are chlorinated and softened by the base exchange process from 19°-21° (Clark) to between 8° and 9° (Clark). Monthly samples taken for bacteriological examination have always demonstrated the water to be highly satisfactory.

The 2584 occupied dwellings (2530 houses, 6 huts and 48 caravans) all have a piped main water supply (2511 direct into the dwelling and 73 to a stand pipe or sharing one).

*Sewage Disposal.* The majority of the houses in the town are connected to the public sewers as the table given below demonstrates.

The drainage of the town is arranged on the 'Separate System' (i.e. surface water and sewage are disposed of separately). Surface water is discharged directly into the River Thames through oil traps. Sewage is lifted to the sewage disposal works by Shone Ejectors operated by compressed air produced at the Lambridge Wood Pumping Station.

\* Related live births are births occurring not during the calendar year 1955, but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born,



The Consulting Engineers submitted to the Minister with the approval of the Council, the detailed working plans of the new sewage outfall works and in March approval was received from the Minister to proceed with the works in June, subject to a satisfactory tender being received. Formal approval was also received in May for the electrification scheme to proceed concurrently with the new outfall works contract.

Tenders were eventually approved by the Council for the new works, and the Northfield End pumping station in July, 1955, and preliminary works were commenced at the Marlow Road site by the contractors in September, 1955. Work on this project has continued.

Summary of Closet Provision and Water Supply

Method of Sewage Disposal	Type of Water Supply		
	Well	Main Water	
		To stand pipe or sharing one	Piped into house
Chemical Closet ... ..	—	48	—
Pail Closet ... ..	—	—	—
Water Closet			
To main sewer ... ..	—	25	2436
To cesspool ... ..	—	—	75
TOTALS	—	73	2511

SECTION D  
HOUSING

New Construction since 1945

(a) By the Council

	Houses				Prefabs	Bungalows 2 Bedroom Type	Flats 2 Bedroom Type
	Bedrooms						
	2	3	4				
Total constructed 1945—54 ... ..	8	164	18	34	16	32	
Number completed during 1955 ... ..	17	25	—	—	15	—	
Number under con- struction at 31.12.55	22	31	—	—	1	—	
Total completed and under construction ...	47	220	18	34	32	32	

*(b) By Private Enterprise*

Since 1945 65 houses have been built by private enterprise and 10 were under construction at December 31st, 1955.

*Housing Needs of the Borough.* It is estimated that a further 50 houses are required to satisfy the present demand for accommodation.

*Huts and Caravans.* During the year most of the occupants of huts on the Dry Leas, Normanstead and Wheatsheaf Meadow sites were rehoused on the Council's Estates, and the huts vacated were demolished, there remaining at 31.12.55 only 6 huts for demolition.

On a privately owned site there are 48 caravans occupied as dwellings.

*Housing Development.* Progress has been maintained on the erection of new houses and bungalows on the Council's Abraham's Estate as the table showing the Council's home building programme indicates.

During the latter part of the year it was decided to build a further 28 dwellings on this estate comprising 18 2-bedroomed houses and 10 3-bedroomed houses. In December, 1955, the Council had received tenders from builders in regard to this particular development, and the Council received the Ministry's approval of the successful tender during March, 1956.

*Inspections made, Notices Served and Orders made*

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections Made	200	20
<i>Notices Served</i>		
(a) Informal	29	10
(b) Statutory	—	2
<i>Orders Made</i>		
(a) Closing Order	—	—
(b) Demolition Order	—	—
(c) Undertaking Given under Section 11 Hous- ing Act, 1936	—	1

*Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954*

In accordance with the provisions of this Act, a joint report of the Medical Officer of Health and the Sanitary Inspector was presented to the Council on the recommended housing programme for the next five years. After full consideration of this Report, the Council decided to include 30 houses to be dealt with under Section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 during that period.

The Council further authorized the Sanitary Inspector to interview several owners with a view to bringing their properties up to the standard required by the 1954 Act. In some instances, work has already commenced on the repair and improvement of certain houses.



SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat.* A large proportion of the slaughtering for this district is carried out at the Reading Abattoir, but on de-rationing in 1954, the Council licensed two former slaughterhouses and at one of these premises slaughtering is carried out on a small scale.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED PERIOD 1st JANUARY—31st DECEMBER, 1955						
	Cattle ex- clud- ing cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Total
No. killed (if known)	—	—	15	32	10	57
No. Inspected	—	—	15	27	10	52
All diseases except Tuberculosis						
1. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. % No. inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only						
1. Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
2. Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
3. % No. inspected affected with Tuberculosis	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Ice Cream.* Premises where ice cream is sold or manufactured have been inspected regularly throughout the year. It has not been possible to take any ice-cream samples.

No. of premises registered for the sale and manufacture of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
(a) No. of persons using cold mix method	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(b) No. of persons carrying out heat treatment (Ref. Ice Cream Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947-52)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
No. of premises registered for sale of ice cream	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	41

*Food Poisoning.* No cases of Food Poisoning were notified during the year.

*Food Inspected and Condemned.* The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered.

Beef. ... ..	75 lb.	Canned Milk ... ..	9 tins
Canned Ham ... ..	66½ lb.	Canned Fish ... ..	5 tins
Corned Beef ... 6 tins (36 lb.)		Imported Lambs' Liver	13½ lb.
Other Canned Meats ... 29 tins		Beef Sausages ... ..	10 lb.
Canned Fruit ... ..	31 tins	Rock Salmon ... ..	5 stone
Canned Vegetables ... 35 tins		Crabs (Cornish) ... ..	51

*Milk and Dairies Regulations*

No. of Registered Distributors with dairy premises within the Borough ... ..	4
No. of Registered Distributors with dairy premises outside the Borough ... ..	2
No. of Dealer's licences granted for Tuberculin Tested Milk	4
„ „ „ „ Pasteurized Milk ... ..	4
„ „ „ „ Sterilized Milk ... ..	2
„ „ „ „ Tuberculin Tested Milk ... ..	2
„ „ „ „ Pasteurized Milk ... ..	2

*Milk Sampling. Milk (Special Designations) Regulations*

4 samples of 'designated' milk were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for routine statutory examination. All the samples satisfied the prescribed tests.

*Food Premises.* During the year 72 inspections were made of food premises in the Borough, and some improvements effected

No. of food premises according to type of business, as at 31.12.55:

Butcher's Premises ... ..	11
Bakehouses ... ..	5
Confectionery premises (cakes, bread, etc.) ... ..	7
Grocery premises ... ..	19
Fish Shops (including Fish Friers) ... ..	4
Greengrocers ... ..	9
Hotels, Cafés, etc. ... ..	22
Mixed General Shops (other than Grocers, and including sweet shops) ... ..	18
Licensed Premises ... ..	35
Total ... ..	130

*Food Hygiene.* As in 1954, personal contact was deemed to be the best method of promoting a better understanding on food hygiene matters. The prospect of a new Food & Drugs Act, and Regulations dealing with food hygiene is an indication that this particular work will become of more importance in the near future.



*Special Examination of Food.* Arising from information sent by the Uxbridge Public Health Department, it was found necessary to inquire into a suspected and possibly infected supply of oatmeal sent to a food shop in the Borough. This particular consignment was traced and samples of the oatmeal were sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Oxford for bacteriological examination. The results of this examination indicated the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis. The consignment was voluntarily surrendered and destroyed.

*Food and Drugs Act 1938*

Inspections made of Premises (Section 13) ...	...	...	...	...	72
Informal Notices Served ...	...	...	...	...	6
Informal Notices completed by 31.12.55 ...	...	...	...	...	6
Statutory Notices Served ...	...	...	...	...	0

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Measles ...	...	...	...	...	102	107	209
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Poliomyelitis (non-Paralytic) ...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
TOTAL					102	110	212

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	1	1	1	2	1	—	1	—
Non-Pulmonary	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	1	1	1	2	1	—	1	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspections made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	11	6	1	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	45	24	1	—
3. Other premises ...	10	6	—	—
TOTAL ...	66	36	2	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Referred by H.M. Inspector	Number remedied
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	1	—	1
Sanitary Conveniences—			
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	1	—	1
(c) Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—
Other offences (not including offences relating to outwork) ...	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	2	—	2

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949  
Report for the 12 month period ending 31st March, 1956

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
No. of properties inspected by the Local Authority during the 12 month period ended 31.3.56, as a result					
(a) of notification	—	20	—	5	25
(b) survey under the Act,	8	46	2	27	83
and (c) otherwise, e.g. when visited primarily for another cause	2	80	3	40	125
MAJOR	—	—	—	—	—
No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by rats					
MINOR	1	13	1	3	18
MAJOR	—	—	—	—	—
No. of properties which were found to be seriously affected by mice					
MINOR	—	7	—	4	11
No. of infested properties treated by Local Authorities	1	18	—	1	20
No. of notices served under Section 4					
(i) Treatment	—	—	—	—	—
(ii) Structural works (e.g. proofing, etc.)	—	—	—	—	—

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these acts during the year.

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE  
YEAR 1955*Summary of Inspections (including revisits)*

(a) <i>House Inspection.</i>	Under Public Health Act	...	...	220
	Under Housing Act	...	...	28
	Miscellaneous visits	...	...	135

(b) *General Sanitation.*

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	...	124
Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Moveable Dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Rodent Control	...	...	...	...	...	...	114
Piggeries	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Smoke Observations (informal)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	42

(c) *Food Premises.*

Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Butcher's Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Fish Shops and Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Grocers' Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Hotels, cafés, restaurants, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Ice Cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Visits to food premises <i>re</i> unsound food	...	...	...	...	...	...	32
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Visits to slaughterhouses <i>re</i> meat inspection	...	...	...	...	...	...	50
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	40

(d) *Infectious Disease.*

Inquiries and visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	7
Premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	32

(e) *Rag Flock Act.*

Routine visits	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---

(f) *Notices.*

No. of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	138
No. of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
No. of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	2



*Summary of work carried out and Nuisances abated*

Accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Chimneys repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Internal plasterwork renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	19
Windows repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
External brickwork pointing renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Floors repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Flushing cisterns renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
W.C. Pans renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	10
Fireplaces or ranges repaired	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
Yards cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Miscellaneous items dealt with	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

BICESTER URBAN DISTRICT

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	1679
Population:							
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Popu-							
lation	...	...	...	...	...	...	4540
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.55) Home Popu-							
lation	...	...	...	...	...	...	4720
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4171
Number of Inhabited Houses (1954)					...	...	1205
(1955)					...	...	1280
Number of Families or separate occupiers (1954)					...		1265
(1955)					...		1310
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£26,233
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£100

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

Bicester is a market town in the midst of a predominantly agricultural area. The principal occupation is therefore agriculture although the largest single employer of labour from the town is the Base Ordnance Depot nearby in the Ploughley Rural District.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude    Corrected	
Bicester						
Legitimate	...	46	47	93	19.7	
Illegitimate	...	4	—	4	0.8	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	50	47	97	20.5	19.1
		<hr/>				
England and Wales		...	...	...	...	15.0

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Bicester						
Legitimate	...	1	3	4	41.2	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	1	3	4	39.60	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales		...	...	...	...	23.1

## DEATHS

## DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Bicester ... ..	13	23	36	7.6	7.8
England and Wales	...	...	...	11.7	

## CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per- centage of the total	Order of fre- quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...					
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach		1	1	2.78	=7
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2		2	5.56	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		1	1	2.78	=7
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1	1	2.78	=7
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	1	3	4	11.12	=3
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ...					
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	2	4	6	16.68	2
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	3	7	10	27.80	1
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...					
20. Other heart disease ...	1	3	4	11.12	=3
21. Other circulatory disease ...					
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...					
24. Bronchitis ...	1		1	2.78	=7
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...					
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...					
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...					
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...	1		1	2.78	=7
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	1	3	4	11.12	=3
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	1		1	2.78	=7
34. All other accidents ...					
35. Suicide ...					
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	13	23	36 (*30)	100.1 (*83.40)	

\* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.



## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.64 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

## INFANT MORTALITY AND NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

There were 2 male deaths under one year, both of which occurred in the first four weeks of life. Both occurred in legitimately born children.

			(per 1000* related live births)
Infant Mortality Rate	...	...	21.6 (24.9)*
Neo-natal Mortality Rate	...	...	21.6 (17.3 (provisional))*

## SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* The continued rise in water requirements resulted in a consumption during 1955 of over 60 $\frac{1}{4}$  million gallons, an average of 1,160,000 gallons per week.

During the year the supplies at the Council's Headworks and the British Railways borehole were augmented by water taken from the Air Ministry supply at Heyford, delivered in bulk to the Council's storage. The scheme for increased storage is now under consideration.

Twelve bacteriological tests and 3 chemical examinations were made and found satisfactory.

Of the 1280 occupied houses in the town, 1271 have a piped water supply (1231 direct to the house and 40 to a standpipe) 9 are dependent on wells.

*Sewage Disposal.* The new sewage disposal works, which provides for full treatment before discharge is approaching completion, and will soon be in operation. Some existing sewers in the town have been relaid in order to reduce infiltration.

\* Figures in parentheses are for England and Wales 1955. See footnote on p. 28.

*Summary of Closet Provision and Water Supply*

Method of Sewage Disposal	Type of Water Supply		
	Well	Main Water	
		To stand pipe	Piped into house
Chemical Closet ... ..	—	—	—
Pail Closet ... ..	9	—	—
Water Closet			
To main sewer ... ..	—	40	1231
To cesspool ... ..	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	9	40	1231

SECTION D  
HOUSING*New Construction since 1945**(a) By the Council*

	Houses			Flats		Bungalows	
	Bedrooms			Bedrooms		Bedrooms	
	2	3	4	1	2	1	2
Total completed 1945-1954 ...	46	156	4	—	—	4	4
Number completed in 1955 ...	20	46	—	—	—	—	—
Number under construction at 31.12.55 ... ..	10	49	4	24	4	—	—
Total completed and under construction ... ..	76	251	8	24	4	4	4

(b) *By Private Enterprise.* Since 1945 36 houses have been erected by private enterprise. At 31.12.55 a further 11 were under construction.

*Housing List.* At 31.12.55 live applications for Council houses numbered 341.

*Caravans.* Two caravans were relicensed during the year 1955.

*Improvement Grants.* Up to 31.12.55 the Council had approved 20 schemes for the improvement of dwellings under the Housing Act 1949. The total amount approved has been £5474 of which the Bicester U.D. has contributed £2497.

*Inspections made, Notices served and Orders made*

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections made ... ..	241	153
Notices served		
Informal ... ..	109	79
Statutory ... ..	—	—
Orders made ... ..	—	—

SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

*Meat.* There are now three licensed slaughterhouses in the town.

CARCASSES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN  
WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	231		23	1050	1020	
Number inspected	200		20	950	927	
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and cysticerci</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	—	—	22	65	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	9.5%	—	—	2.3%	7.0%	—
<i>Tuberculosis only:</i> Whole carcasses condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	—	—	—	61	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	4.0%	—	—	—	6.6%	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalized and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

*Food Poisoning.* There were no cases of food poisoning notified during the year.



<i>Food inspected and condemned.</i>							lbs.	tins
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	247	
Canned Meat	...	...	...	...	...	...	60	
„ Milk	...	...	...	...	...	...		3
„ Fish	...	...	...	...	...	...		5
„ Soup	...	...	...	...	...	...		4
„ Vegetables	...	...	...	...	...	...		58
„ Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	...		12

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

						Number of cases notified		
						Male	Female	Total
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	30	39	69
Totals	...	...	...	...	...	30	39	69

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	5	1	2	1	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmonary	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	6	1	2	1	—	—	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	No. on Register	Inspec- tions made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prose- cuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	9	37	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	17	45	—	—
3. Other premises ...	—	—	—	—

(b) Cases in which defects were found

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	8	8	—
Ineffective drainage of floors ...	7	7	—
Unsuitable or defective sanitary conveniences ... ..	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	15	15	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47  
NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these acts during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

Type of Premises	Rats	Mice	Properties inspected on notification	No. inspected otherwise	No. of Properties Treated
L.A. Properties	—	—	—	19	—
Dwelling houses	15	1	12	27	16
Business Properties ...	1	2	3	5	3
Agricultural Properties	2	—	2	5	2

SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1955

Number of different premises visited	...	...	...	...	473
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	573
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	185
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	123
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	129
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	—
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	—

NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Privies, W.C.s, sink-wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	87
As to Drains or Cesspools	...	...	...	...	103
As to Pigs or other animals	...	...	...	...	3
As to Cowsheds, Dairies and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	7
As to Deficient or impure water	...	...	...	...	5
As to Unclean houses	...	...	...	...	17
As to Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	—
As to Polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	14

As to Insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	3
As to other defects or nuisances	...	...	...	5
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	7
Number of water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	3
,,       ,,       ,,       ,, bacteriological report	...	...	...	12
Number of wells closed	...	...	...	—
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	...	...	...	—
Number of new wells sunk	...	...	...	—
Number of houses connected with the water mains (new houses)	...	...	...	66
Number of water certificates granted	...	...	...	—
Number of seizures or surrenders of unsound or diseased food	...	...	...	123
Number of Conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	...	...	...	—
Canal Boats on Register	...	...	...	—
Common Lodging Houses on Register	...	...	...	—
Milkshops on Register	...	...	...	4
Milkshops, number of inspections	...	...	...	19
Cowsheds and dairy farms on Register	...	...	...	1
Cowsheds, number of inspections	...	...	...	8
Slaughterhouses, number of Register	...	...	...	3
Slaughterhouses, number of inspections	...	...	...	193
Piggeries, number of inspections	...	...	...	5



## URBAN DISTRICT OF THAME

## SECTION A

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	3140
Population							
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (1954) Home Population	...						3710
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (1955) Home Population	...						3710
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3585
Number of Inhabited Houses (1954)				...	...	...	1188
„ „ „ (1955)	...	...	...	...	...	...	1202
Number of Families or separate occupiers (1945)	...				...	...	1222
„ „ „ (1955)	...				...	...	1230
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£21490
Product of a Penny Rate			...	...	...	...	£90

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The town is an agricultural centre with a large weekly market. There are, in addition, light engineering works and a large laundry.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
BIRTHS

## LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home popula- tion) Crude    Corrected	
Thame						
Legitimate	...	40	32	72	19.4	
Illegitimate	...	—	1	1	.3	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	40	33	73	19.7	20.4
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.0	

## STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Thame						
Legitimate	...	1	—	1	13.5	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	NIL	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	1	—	1	13.5	
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	23.1	

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

	Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
				Crude	Corrected
Thame ... ..	30	17	47	12.7	10.9
England and Wales ... ..	...	...	...	11.7	

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1	1	2	4.26	= 7
2. Tuberculosis, other ... ..		1	1	2.13	=10
3. Syphilitic disease ... ..					
4. Diphtheria ... ..					
5. Whooping Cough ... ..					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..					
8. Measles ... ..					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ... ..		1	1	2.13	=10
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	1	3	6.39	= 5
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ... ..			5	10.65	
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast					
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ... ..	2	2			
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ... ..		1	1	2.13	=10
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ... ..	8	2	10	21.30	1
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	7	1	8	17.04	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease ... ..		1	1	2.13	=10
20. Other heart disease ... ..	2	3	5	10.65	3
21. Other circulatory disease ...	1	1	2	4.26	= 7
22. Influenza ... ..	1		1	2.13	=10
23. Pneumonia ... ..			3	6.39	= 5
24. Bronchitis ... ..	3				
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ... ..					
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ... ..					
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ... ..					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...		1	1	2.13	=10
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	2.13	=10
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ... ..					
31. Congenital malformations ...					
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ... ..	1	3	4	8.52	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...					
34. All other accidents ... ..					
35. Suicide ... ..	1		1	2.13	=10
36. Homicide and operations of war ... ..					
ALL CAUSES:	30	17	47 (*32)	100.1 (*68.2)	

\* Cancer, heart disease and Chest disease combined.

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no maternal deaths during the year.

## INFANT MORTALITY (Deaths under one year)

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY (Deaths under four weeks)

Two female deaths under one year, both in legitimately born children, were recorded during 1955. Of these two, one occurred in the first four weeks of life. This gives an Infant Mortality rate of 27.39, and a Neo-Natal Mortality rate of 13.70. The rates for England and Wales for 1955 were, respectively

Maternal: 0.64 per thousand total (live and still births)

Infant: 24.9 per thousand \*related live births

Neo-Natal: 17.3 per thousand \*related live births (Provisional figure).

## SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* The Thame Water Supply was installed in 1904. The source is from Upper Green Sand and Portland Beds on Kimmeridge Clay, and the water is lifted through a 10-inch Borehole sunk 60 feet below ground level.

During the year 1949 two new 12-inch Boreholes were sunk into the same strata at a distance of approximately 150 feet from the original borehole. The construction of a new Pump House was completed during 1953. Two Harland Submersible Pumps with a lifting capacity of 117 gallons per minute, and two 18 h.p. Electric Vertical Drip-proof Slipring Motors were fixed during 1954, and were brought into full operation in June 1954. Due to the heavy sand content in the water, Slotted Filters were placed round the new Bores for the purpose of holding back as much sand as possible from the Bores. Even so, much sand does get through, and therefore it is necessary to reduce the pumping rate in order to prevent excessive wear on the pump bearings. However, some improvement has resulted in the amount of sand present and it is hoped that a further improvement will be effected.

The average daily consumption is about 132,000 gallons which represents a consumption of about 36 gallons per head of the population. (Domestic consumption about 24 gallons per head; water used for trade purposes about 12 gallons per head; there is no bulk supply of water.)

(\* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1955 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)



Of the 1211 occupied dwellings (1202 houses and 9 caravans), 1204 have a piped main water supply (1186 direct into the house and 18 to a stand pipe) and 7 are dependent upon wells, the water from which is piped into the house in 3 cases.

*Sewage Disposal.* The Majority of the houses in the town are connected to the public sewers as the following table demonstrates:

Method of Sewage Disposal	Type of Water Supply		
	Well	Main Water	
		To stand pipe	Piped into house
Chemical Closet ... ..	—	9	—
Pail Closet ... ..	3	9	25
Water Closet			
To main sewer ... ..	1	—	1134
To cesspool or septic tank	3	—	27
TOTAL ... ..	7	18	1186

SECTION D  
HOUSING

*New Construction since 1945*

(a) *By the Council*

	Houses			Bungalows for old people
	Bedrooms			
	2	3	4	
Total completed 1945-54 ...	26	89	12	8
Number completed in 1955 ...	2	6	2	—
Number under construction at 31.12.55 ... ..	8	2	2	—
Total completed and under construction ... ..	36	97	16	8

(b) *By Private Enterprise.* Four houses erected by private enterprise were completed in 1955.

*Inspections made, Notices served and Orders made*

	Under the Public Health Act 1936	Under the Housing Act 1936	Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1953
Inspections made ...	113	17	—
Notices served			
Informal ... ..	21	11	—
Statutory ... ..	—	—	—
Orders made ...	—	3	2

(c) *Applications for housing by the Council.* 82 applications were outstanding on 31.12.55.

SECTION E

FOOD INSPECTION

Since July 1st, 1954 Slaughtering has been carried out in two licensed Slaughterhouses.

Meat Inspection has been carried out and during the year under review the following articles of food, which were unfit for human consumption, were condemned and voluntarily surrendered:

Beef	...	...	...	Emaciated and Diseased	...	...	1331 lb.
Beef	...	...	...	Broken Pelvis and Sour	...	...	60 lb.
Pork	...	...	...	Whole Carcase—Inflammation and Discoloured	...	...	112 lb.
Pork	...	...	...	Whole Carcase—Septic Pneumonia			121 lb.
Pork	...	...	...	Whole Carcase—Emaciated	...		158 lb.
Lamb	...	...	...	Whole Carcase—Excessive Injury			80 lb.
62 Ox Livers		...	...	Fluke and Abcesses	...	...	971 lb.
1 Beasts Pluck	...	...	...	Tuberculosis	...	...	23 lb.
2 Lambs' Livers	...	...	...	Fluke	...	...	2½ lb.
Pigs' Livers	...	...	...	(Imported)—Decomposed	...	...	36 lb.
Corned Beef	...	...	...	24 lb. 7 oz.			
Pork Luncheon Meat				16 lb. 12 oz.			
Irish Stew				1 Tin	Apricots		3 Tins
Beef Loaf				3 Tins	Mandarines		1 Tin
Stewed Beef				1 Tin	Golden Corn		1 Tin
Luncheon Meat				1 Tin	Baby Food		1 Tin
Sheeps' Tongues				2 Tins	Tomatoes		1 Tin
Victoria Plums				3 Tins	Evaporated Milk		2 Tins
Strawberries				1 Tin	Butter Beans	...	3 Tins
Pineapple				1 Tin	Green Peas		3 Tins
Bilberries				1 Tin			

FOOD POISONING

One case of food poisoning was notified during the year.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES ...

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Measles	...	...	...	...	60	47	107
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	—	2	2
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
TOTALS					66	54	120

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	—	4	—	1	1	—	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1
TOTAL ...	1	5	—	1	1	—	1	2

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspections made	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	39	41	8	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ... ..	5	18	1	—
3. Other premises ... ..	2	11	1	—
TOTAL	46	70	10	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	8	8	—
Sanitary Conveniences—insufficient	1	1	—
Other offences against the Act (not included offences relating to Outwork)	1	1	—
TOTAL	10	10	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948—SECTION 47

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE (AMENDMENT) ACT 1951

No action was taken under these Acts during the year.

SUMMARY OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR RODENT CONTROL

This Council are subscribers to the scheme operated by the Bullingdon R.D.C.

Whenever a report of Rats has been received a message is sent, by telephone, to the Public Health Department of Bullingdon R.D.C. They, in turn, instruct their operator to inspect and carry out treatment. If the infested property is a business house of some kind, then before he commences treatment, the operator requires the owner, or person in charge, to sign a form agreeing to pay all costs of treatment.



In this case Bullingdon render an account to this Council and the Council in turn renders the account to the owner of the business premises. In the case of domestic property, the Council pays all charges, the account for which is rendered annually by Bullingdon R.D.C.

Year 1955

	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Agriculture</i>	<i>Business</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>No. of Properties Inspected</i>	112	23	190	325
<i>No. of Properties treated</i> ...	27	4	5	36

#### SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR'S WORK DURING THE YEAR 1955

Number of different premises visited	...	...	...	...	187
Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	645
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	74
Number of defects or nuisances discovered	...	...	...	...	91
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	94
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	Nil

#### NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Privies, W.C.s, sink wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	15
As to Drains or Cesspools	...	...	...	...	42
As to Pigs or other animals	...	...	...	...	8
As to Cowsheds, Dairies and Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	16
As to Deficient or impure water	...	...	...	...	—
As to Unclean houses	...	...	...	...	8
As to Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...	6
As to Polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	7
As to Insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	9
As to other defects or nuisances	...	...	...	...	31
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	13
Number of water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	36
Number of wells closed	...	...	...	...	—
Number of wells cleansed, repaired or deepened	...	...	...	...	—
Number of new wells sunk	...	...	...	...	—
Number of houses connected with the water mains	...	...	...	...	24
Number of water certificates granted	...	...	...	...	—
Number of surrenders of unsound or diseased food	...	...	...	...	121
Number of Conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	...	...	...	...	—
Milkshops on Register	...	...	...	...	4
Milkshops, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	12
Cowsheds and dairy farms on Register	...	...	...	...	16
Cowsheds, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	55
Slaughterhouses, number on Register	...	...	...	...	2
Slaughterhouses, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	148
Piggeries, number of inspections	...	...	...	...	23

BULLINGDON RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A  
STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA  
(1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	Mid- 1955 Estimate	Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value	Net Product of Penny Rate			Principal Occupa- tion of Inhabitants
Adwell ...	339	51	15	£ 231	£	s.	d.	Agriculture
Aston Rowant	2924	661	193	2826	11	9	2	Agriculture
Beckley and Stowood	2039	405	118	1495	5	18	1	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Company
Benson ...	2748	3052	403	18579	76	0	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., R.A.F. Benson and *Didcot
Berrick Salome	560	130	38	349	1	7	7	Agriculture
Brightwell	1612	185	54	584	2	5	0	Agriculture
Baldwin								
Britwell	1429	185	54	699	2	14	1	Agriculture
Salome								
Chalgrove ...	2756	781	228	3487	11	14	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Chinnor ...	3420	1798	525	8218	34	16	8	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., Cement works and Sawmills
Clifton	1924	480	140	6158	23	0	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Hampden								
Crowell ...	996	89	26	276	1	0	4	Agriculture
Cuddesdon ...	970	374	109	1679	5	16	9	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Culham ...	2051	429	125	4709	18	11	10	Agriculture and light industries in Abingdon
Cuxham with Easington	789	181	53	545	2	1	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Denton ...	845	133	39	645	2	11	0	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Dorchester-on- Thames	1954	1397	408	5647	22	8	2	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co. and indus- tries in Wallingford
Drayton St. Leonard	1302	280	82	885	3	9	5	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Elsfield ...	1296	140	41	524	2	0	6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Ewelme ...	2542	531	155	2359	9	2	2	Agriculture and R.A.F. Benson
Forest Hill with Shot- over	2015	3774	1102	17722	73	3	4	Industries and offices in Oxford
Garsington ...	2233	867	253	5155	21	2	1	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.

\* Army and Air Force Depots.

Parish	Area (Acres)	Mid- 1955 Estimate	Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value	Net Product of Penny Rate			Principal Occupa- tion of Inhabitants
Great Haseley	4468	596	174	£ 2053	£	s.	d.	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co. and Iron Works
Great Milton...	2582	853	249	3190	12	9	8	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Holton ...	1709	549	74	3979	15	15	11	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Horspath ...	1266	1136	332	4604	17	2	6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Lewknor ...	3184	606	177	1910	7	9	1	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Little Milton...	1348	294	86	905	3	11	7	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Littlemore ...	1038	6037	1763	35993	155	10	8	Industries and offices in Oxford and locality
Marsh Baldon	1282	346	101	1162	4	11	2	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Old Marston	1011	2483	725	10358	45	15	10	Industries and offices in Oxford and locality
Newington ...	1834	147	43	661	2	14	0	Agriculture
Nuneham	2108	877	81	2327	10	7	6	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Courtenay								
Pyrton ...	3295	253	74	1187	4	11	7	Agriculture
Sandford-on- Thames	1005	767	224	2578	10	16	7	Agriculture, Morris Motors, Pressed Steel Co., paper mills and concrete block company
Shirburn ...	2421	219	64	823	3	5	1	Agriculture
Stadhampton	2432	750	219	2169	8	6	8	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Stanton St. John	2720	415	121	3233	12	15	5	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Stoke Talmage	869	82	24	230		17	7	Agriculture
Sydenham ...	1580	318	93	768	3	1	0	Agriculture
Tetsworth ...	3318	466	136	1800	7	5	1	Agriculture, Light Engineering, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Thomley ...	564	21	6	85		8	3	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Tiddington with Albury	1089	318	93	1364	5	11	1	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.
Towersey ...	1380	322	94	1259	4	18	6	Agriculture
Toot Baldon	1112	154	45	468	1	17	10	Agriculture, Morris Motors and Pressed Steel Co.





SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is predominantly agricultural. There are a number of light industries, sawmills and a cement works. Many people travel daily into Oxford to work, particularly at Morris Motors and the Pressed Steel Company. The principal occupations of the inhabitants of each parish are detailed on pp. 52-54.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS			Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude    Corrected	
Bullingdon							
Legitimate	...	342	313	655	16.9		
Illegitimate	...	19	22	41	1.1		
TOTAL		...	361	335	696	18.0	18.0
England and Wales		...	...	...	...	...	15.0

STILL BIRTHS			Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Bullingdon							
Legitimate	...	9	8	17	25.3		
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil		
TOTAL		...	9	8	17	23.8	
England and Wales		...	...	...	...	23.1	

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES			Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude    Corrected	
Bullingdon	...	191	173	364	9.6	10.6	
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.7		

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There was one death from puerperal causes during the year. This gave a maternal mortality rate of 1.40 per 1000 total (live and still) births. The E.W. figure was 0.64.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Bullingdon					
Legitimate	...	7	9	16	24.4
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	NIL
<hr/>					
TOTAL	...	7	9	16	23.0
<hr/>					
England and Wales		...	...	...	24.9*

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Bullingdon					
Legitimate	...	4	5	9	13.7
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	NIL
<hr/>					
TOTAL	...	4	5	9	13.0
<hr/>					
England and Wales		...	...	...	17.3* (Provisional Figure)

(\* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1955 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)



CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	1		1	.275	=26
2. Tuberculosis, other ...	1		1	.275	=26
3. Syphilitic disease ...	5		5	1.375	=17
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...		3	3	.825	=20
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	7	4	11	3.025	=10
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	7		7	1.925	14
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		6	6	1.650	=15
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		2	2	.550	=23
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	19	14	33	9.075	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...	1	2	3	.825	=20
16. Diabetes ...		2	2	.550	=23
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	20	28	48	13.200	2
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	28	14	42	11.550	3
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	5	8	2.200	13
20. Other heart disease ...	20	29	49	13.475	1
21. Other circulatory disease ...	13	6	19	5.225	7
22. Influenza ...		3	3	.825	=20
23. Pneumonia ...	14	13	27	7.425	6
24. Bronchitis ...	10	4	14	3.850	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	1		1	.275	=26
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	2	4	6	1.650	=15
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	4	5	9	2.475	12
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	2		2	.550	=23
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...		1	1	.275	=26
31. Congenital malformations ...	1	4	5	1.375	=17
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	15	14	29	7.975	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	10	1	11	3.025	=10
34. All other accidents ...	4	8	12	3.300	9
35. Suicide ...	3	1	4	1.100	19
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	191	173	364 (*251)	100.10 (*69.9)	

\* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

SECTION B  
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* During the year main-supply schemes have been completed for:

- (a) The Miltons, Great Haseley, Tiddington, Berrick Salome and Easington;
- (b) Warborough (including Shillingford) and Drayton St. Leonard.

A scheme to serve Little Haseley has received Ministerial approval and mains-laying from Great Haseley is proceeding. A small extension to serve Cottages in Blacksmith Lane, Warborough, is also proceeding.

A potential borehole supply at Lewknor has been tested and is satisfactory, and this, with the Watlington borehole supply, will, it is expected, be adequate to serve the Eastern Parishes of the District. Negotiations are taking place with the Oxford City Council for the District Council to take over the duties of supplying these Parishes on April 1st, 1956, and, in anticipation, Water Supply Schemes are now being prepared.

A mains extension to serve new Council Houses in Love Lane, Watlington, and the provision of a link main between Lobb Hill and Milton Common and Tetsworth are under consideration.

In those parishes in which water mains are already laid the following additional houses were connected to the mains during the year.

PARISH	Number of Houses	Water Suppliers
Aston Rowant	11	Oxford Corporation
Beckley and Stowood	2	ditto
Benson	4	South Oxon Water Co
Berrick Salome	21	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Brightwell Baldwin	1	Oxford Corporation
Britwell Salome	2	ditto
Chalgrove	1	ditto
	71	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Chinnor	51	Oxford Corporation
Clifton Hampden	6	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Crowell	1	Oxford Corporation
Cuxham with Easington	1	ditto
Dorchester-on-Thames	2	ditto
	20	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Drayton St. Leonard	32	ditto
	4	Oxford Corporation
Elsfield	1	ditto
Ewelme	2	South Oxon Water Co.
Forest Hill with Shot-over	12	Oxford Corporation
Garsington	3	ditto
Great Haseley	1	ditto
	11	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Great Milton	121	ditto
	2	Oxford Corporation
Holton	1	ditto
Horspath	30	ditto
Lewknor	3	ditto
Little Milton	1	ditto
	23	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Littlemore	414	Oxford Corporation
Old Marston	58	ditto
	3	ditto
Newington	2	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Pyrton	1	Oxford Corporation
Sandford-on-Thames	1	ditto
Shirburn	11	ditto
	3	ditto
Stadhampton	12	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Stanton St. John	2	Oxford Corporation
Sydenham	1	Bullingdon R.D.C.
Tetsworth	10	ditto
Tiddington with Albury	35	ditto
Towersey	5	ditto
	71	ditto
Warborough	6	Oxford Corporation
Waterperry	7	ditto
Waterstock	4	ditto
Watlington	61	ditto
Wheatley	18	ditto
TOTALS	1166	{ 719 Oxford Corporation 441 Bullingdon R.D.C. 6 South Oxon Water Co.

In some instances where a piped water supply is not available the water supplies are deficient in quality or quantity or in both.

*Bacteriological examination of water supplies.* The following two tables show the results of bacteriological examinations of water supplies from non-mains and mains sources respectively.



The first table shows that 81 per cent of the samples taken were potentially dangerous to health. It should be borne in mind, however, that samples from known-to-be-contaminated sources are often repeated, as it is sometimes considered desirable to obtain a series of samples from a particular source.

(1). *Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples during 1955 from sources other than main piped supplies.*

PARISH	Number of Samples of Water reported as:			Totals
	Satisfactory	Slightly Contaminated	Grossly Contaminated	
Adwell ... ..	—	—	1	1
Aston Rowant ... ..	1	1	3	5
Beckley & Stowood ... ..	1	—	—	1
Brightwell Baldwin ... ..	—	1	—	1
Chalgrove ... ..	—	—	2	2
Chinnor ... ..	—	1	6	7
Clifton Hampden ... ..	—	—	3	3
Cuxham ... ..	1	—	3	4
Dorchester-on-Thames ... ..	—	1	—	1
Drayton St. Leonard ... ..	—	2	2	4
Great Haseley ... ..	1	—	1	2
Great Milton ... ..	1	—	—	1
Lewknor ... ..	—	—	7	7
Little Milton ... ..	—	—	2	2
Marsh Baldon ... ..	—	—	1	1
Old Marston ... ..	1	—	1	2
Nuneham Courtenay ... ..	2	—	—	2
Tetsworth ... ..	1	1	2	4
Toot Baldon ... ..	—	—	1	1
Waterstock ... ..	—	—	1	1
Watlington ... ..	1	2	7	10
Wheatfield ... ..	1	—	—	1
Wheatley ... ..	1	—	—	1
TOTALS ... ..	12	9	43	64
PER CENT ... ..	19	14	67	100

(2). *Bacteriological Examination of Water Samples during 1955 from main piped water supplies.*

PARISH	Ministry of Health Classifications				Totals
	Class 1 Highly satis- factory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Suspi- cious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	
			Potentially dan- gerous to health		
Berwick Salome ... ..	—	1	—	3	4
Chalgrove ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Culham ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Dorchester-on-Thames ... ..	5	—	—	—	5
Great Haseley ... ..	1	—	—	1	2
Great Milton ... ..	3	—	—	1	4
Lewknor ... ..	3	—	—	—	3
Little Milton ... ..	—	—	1	—	1
Stadhampton ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Stanton St. John ... ..	6	2	3	9	20
Sydenham ... ..	—	1	—	—	1
Tetsworth ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Tiddington ... ..	2	—	—	—	2
Towersey ... ..	1	—	—	—	1
Warborough ... ..	2	1	—	1	4
TOTALS ... ..	27	5	4	15	51
PER CENT ... ..	53	10	8	29	100

The unsatisfactory samples from Stanton St. John were taken from a private mains supply; this was subsequently improved and made fit.

The remaining unsatisfactory samples were taken from potential public supplies and further samples from these supplies have proved to be satisfactory.

*Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.* During the year the scheme for sewerage Benson and Ewelme has been completed. A scheme for Chalgrove is virtually completed; the final link main between Mill Lane and the Main Street is proceeding.

A sewerage scheme to serve Forest Hill Village has received Ministerial approval and tenders have been invited.

The Minister has now given his approval for the main sewerage scheme at Horspath to proceed, and it is expected that this scheme, and the scheme for main drainage in Spring Lane, Littlemore, will be put in hand early in 1956.

Reference to the table on p. 63 shows that 49% of the dwellings in the R.D. are now connected to the sewer (a rise of 5% since 1954), 27% have cesspools but 24% are still described as having 'inadequate drainage'.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT (10572 DWELLINGS)  
(9808 houses, 285 huts, 479 moveable dwellings)

PARISH	WATER SUPPLIES								SANITARY ACCOMMODATION		DRAINAGE (see note below)	
	Dwellings connected to								Water Closets	Pail Closets or Privies		
	Piped Supplies											
	Private				Public							
	Int.	Ext.	Int.	Ext.	Int.	Ext.	Int.	Ext.				
Adwell...	3	—	—	—	4	8	...	...	5	10	—	9
Aston Rowant	11	—	100	—	45	37	...	...	75	118	21	71
Beckley and Stowood	—	—	98	2	10	8	...	...	45	73	—	54
Benson	—	—	305	35	21	42	...	...	192	211	33	196
Berrick Salome	1	—	27	1	6	3	...	...	17	21	6	17
Brightwell Baldwin	2	1	15	—	12	24	...	...	13	41	—	22
Britwell Salome	10	4	18	1	10	11	...	...	19	35	—	25
Chalgrove	1	—	120	64	20	23	...	...	84	144	116	36
Chinnor	9	12	405	—	89	10	...	...	274	251	197	131
Clifton Hampden	6	2	25	1	17	89	...	...	68	72	64	30
Crowell	—	—	22	—	—	4	...	...	15	11	—	18
Cuddesdon	—	—	60	39	—	10	...	...	51	58	30	50
Culham	47	37	—	—	18	23	...	...	59	66	28	30
Cuxham with Easington	—	13	26	—	8	6	...	...	17	36	—	28
Denton	—	—	13	8	—	18	...	...	15	24	—	16
Dorchester-on-Thames	—	—	95	137	94	82	...	...	105	303	130	129
Drayton St. Leonard	2	—	45	—	20	15	...	...	38	44	—	59
Elsfield	2	8	31	—	—	—	...	...	14	27	—	23
Ewelme	31	2	114	—	3	5	...	...	48	107	13	63
Forest Hill with Shotover	—	—	1067	25	6	4	...	...	990	112	931	176
Garsington	—	—	164	84	3	2	...	...	108	145	18	136
Great Haseley	7	1	26	13	33	94	...	...	67	107	—	109



Great Milton	...	16	2	156	5	33	37	Oxford City Mains	...	110	139	28	152
Holton	...	9	—	54	—	3	8	Oxford City Mains	...	41	33	—	54
Horspath	...	12	—	288	23	4	5	Oxford City Mains	...	239	93	56	126
Lewknor	...	—	—	49	—	62	66	Oxford City Mains	...	48	129	12	88
Little Milton	...	—	—	40	—	20	26	Oxford City Mains	...	29	57	10	43
Littlemore	...	6	—	1691	44	7	15	Oxford City Mains	...	1731	32	1736	17
Marsh Baldon	...	13	1	—	—	37	50	Private wells ...	...	28	73	—	33
Old Marston	...	—	—	603	110	2	10	Oxford City Mains	...	654	71	543	6
Newington	...	3	—	23	—	11	6	Oxford City Mains	...	20	23	—	28
Nuneham Courtenay	...	15	—	—	—	29	37	Private wells ...	...	18	63	—	22
Pyrton	...	3	—	6	—	34	31	Oxford City Mains	...	19	55	—	36
Sandford-on-Thames	...	—	—	110	102	2	10	Oxford City Mains	...	16	48	—	20
Shirburn	...	10	—	14	—	11	29	Private Mains and Oxford City Mains	...	17	47	19	29
Stadhampton	...	24	1	80	30	57	27	Oxford City Mains	...	103	116	20	129
Stanton St. John	...	23	2	86	—	6	4	Oxford City Mains	...	55	66	20	64
Stoke Talmage	...	—	—	—	—	4	20	Private wells ...	...	3	21	—	11
Sydenham	...	2	—	14	6	25	46	Oxford City Mains	...	34	59	39	17
Tetsworth	...	—	—	48	76	12	—	Private wells and Council Mains	...	49	7	32	23
Thomley	...	—	—	2	4	—	—	Bucks Water Board to huts	...	2	4	4	2
Tiddington with Albury	...	21	—	35	10	18	9	Oxford City Mains	...	68	25	14	51
Toot Baldon	...	5	—	—	—	13	27	Private wells ...	...	8	37	—	9
Towersey	...	—	—	43	—	19	32	Oxford City Mains	...	36	58	10	39
Warborough	...	14	—	98	—	70	49	Oxford City Mains	...	134	97	24	134
Waterperry	...	—	—	29	—	9	7	Oxford City Mains	...	21	24	6	31
Waterstock	...	—	—	16	—	7	11	Oxford City Mains	...	11	23	—	12
Watlington	...	11	—	301	2	144	88	Oxford City Mains	...	444	102	458	39
Wheatfield	...	—	7	—	—	3	4	Private wells ...	...	4	10	—	7
Wheatley	...	—	—	466	—	28	27	Oxford City Mains	...	423	98	403	51
Woodeaton	...	5	2	—	—	12	3	Oxford City Mains	...	10	12	—	19
TOTALS	...	324	95	7028	822	1101	1202			6854	3718	5149	2720

NOTES: Although the figures given are as accurate as possible, many of them are of necessity estimates as it is obviously impracticable to inspect every house in the district every year.  
Dwellings with inadequate drainage are excluded from the figures given under Drainage.

SECTION D  
HOUSING

*New Construction.* The table on pages <sup>66</sup>~~67~~ and <sup>67</sup>~~69~~ summarizes the provision of new houses during the last five years.

The new houses erected in the district during 1955 are detailed below.

PARISH	Houses Erected By									
	Local Authority									Private Enter- prise
	No.	Types (See footnote p. 82)								No.
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
Aston Rowant ...	—									3
Chalgrove ...	50			42		8				—
Chinnor ...	—									1
Crowell ...	—									1
Culham ...	—									1
Dorchester-on-Thames	—									1
Ewelme ...	—									1
Forest Hill with Shot- over ...	—									4
Garsington ...	—									1
Great Haseley ...	—									1
Great Milton ...	—									2
Holton ...	—									1
Horspath ...	20			20						9
Littlemore ...	30			22					8	9
Old Marston ...	—									33
Sandford-on-Thames ...	—									1
Stadhampton ...	—									10
Tiddington ...	—									2
Warborough ...	—									1
Watlington ...	22			22						3
Wheatley ...	—									16
TOTALS ...	122			106		8			8	101

HUTS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

(a) *Number of hutted sites and number of occupied huts on December 31st, 1955. (1954) figures in brackets*

Hut Sites	Number of occupied huts thereon	
Hampden Estate, Chalgrove	68	(135)
Mount Farm and Field Farm Estates, Dorchester	134	(184)
TOTAL	202	(319)

Parts of the following hut sites are in the Rural District but they are administered by the Local Authorities named.

- (i) The Slade Camp, Headington. (Horspath Parish)  
Administered by Oxford Corporation                   ...           ...           79 huts
  
- (ii) Worminghall Camp, Oakley. (Thomley Parish)  
Administered by Aylesbury R.D.C. ...           ...           ...           4 huts

(b) *Moveable Dwellings*. Licensed sites and dwellings on December 31st, 1955, are detailed in the table on p. 68.

The following houses were built by Oxford City in the Bullingdon Rural District since 1952. Forest Hill 128, Littlemore 477. While these houses are administered by the R.D. they are, of course, allotted to applicants on the Oxford City housing list and do not contribute to the solution of the R.D.'s housing problem.



PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES IN THE PERIOD 1951-1955

Parish	COUNCIL HOUSES										PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSES																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																
	Number Completed in each year					Number under Construction on 31.12.55	Total No. Completed and under Construction 31.12.55	Analysis by Type (see page 82)					Number Completed in each Year				Number under Construction on 31.12.55	Total No. Completed and under Construction 31.12.55																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	1951			1952	1953	1954	1955																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																					
Adwell ...	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—</

[illegible]

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS—LICENSED SITES AND CARAVANS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1955

PARISH	Total number of caravans stationed in Parish on 31st December, 1955	Land licensed for the stationing of caravans Public Health Act 1936 Sect. 269 (1) (i)			Number of single licences issued to individuals to station a single caravan in the district Public Health Act 1936. Sect. 269 (1) (ii)	Distribution of caravans. Number of sites and number of caravans each can accommodate																Total No. of Vans sites can accommo- date
		Number of Sites	Total number of caravans for which sites licensed	Number of caravans on site on 31.12.55†		Number of Caravans on a site																
						1	2	3	4	6	7	8	9	10	12	16	32	48	91	106		
Aston Rowant ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3		
Beckley and Stowood ...	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5		
Benson ...	31	3	18	18	13	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	31		
Berrick Salome ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Brightwell Baldwin ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Britwell Salome ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Chinnor ...	6	1	32	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	34		
Clifton Hampden ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Cuddesdon ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Culham ...	5	1	4	4	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5		
Dorchester-on-Thames ...	10	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10		
Ewelme ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Forest Hill with Shotover ...	22	2	16	16(9)	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	22		
Gar sington ...	25	4	27	23(10)	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	29		
Great Haseley ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Great Milton ...	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8		
Horspath ...	17	1	9	9	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17		
Littlemore ...	52	5	44	44(6)	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52		
Marsh Baldon ...	6	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6		
Old Marston ...	153	7	179	149(13)	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	183		
Sandford-on-Thames ...	106	3	105	105	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	106		
Stadhampton ...	5	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5		
Stanton St. John...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Towersey ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1		
Warborough ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Watlington ...	2	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2		
Wheatley ...	8	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8		
TOTALS	479	27	434	372(38)	145	68	15	3	7	6	3	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	541		

†The figures in parentheses in Column 4 represent the number of caravans on the licensed sites in each parish the tenants of which also hold individual licences issued by the Council.



*Demand for Houses.* At the end of 1955 there were 1100 applications for council houses outstanding. To replace unfit houses, to abate overcrowding, to rehouse families living in huts, and to meet the increased demand for housing of a growing population, it is estimated that approximately 900 houses are required. It will be seen from the housing table on pp. 66 and 67 that an average of 131 council houses per annum were erected in the district as a whole between 1951 and 1955.

*Housing Act, 1949, S.20—Improvement Grants*

Applications for financial assistance towards the improvement of dwelling-houses have been received as follows.

Applications:	Years						Totals
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	
Received ... ..	10	1	1	15	82	122	231
Approved ... ..	4	—	1	8	79	100	192
Rejected or withdrawn	6	1	—	7	3	13	30
Still under consideration	—	—	—	—	—	9	9
Works of improvement completed and grants paid	4	—	1	6	65	38	114

NOTE: Although the figures of applications received are correct, some of these are, in effect, re-applications for the same houses since former applications were rejected or withdrawn, and a number of these re-applications have been approved.

The Council has undertaken to give financial assistance on approved expenditure as follows:

	<i>Approved expense of executing the works or approved expense attributable to the dwellings</i>	<i>Amount of Grants approved</i>	<i>Works or improvements completed and Grants paid</i>
	£	£	£
	87931	38811	22151
Less Works not proceeded with	1525	686	
	<u>86406</u>	<u>38125</u>	

*Housing Act, 1936—Houses dealt with under Section 11, Housing Act, 1936, and S.10. Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953.*

Parish	Demolition Orders made by Council (S.11, Housing Act, 1936)	Undertakings given and accepted by Council (S.11, Housing Act, 1936)	Closing Order made by Council (S.10, Local Government (Misc. Prov. Act, 1953)
Chalgrove ... ..	—	3	—
Chinnor ... ..	—	—	4
Horspath ... ..	1	—	—
Lewknor ... ..	—	3	—
Littlemore ... ..	—	1	—
Sandford-on-Thames	—	—	2
Tetsworth ... ..	2	—	—
Towersey ... ..	1	—	—
Wheatley ... ..	—	2	3
TOTALS ...	4	9	9

Eleven houses were demolished during the year; five after formal action had been taken — one each at Forest Hill, Littlemore, Sandford-on-Thames, Tetsworth, and Towersey; and six after informal action — one each at Beckley and Horspath and four at Littlemore.

In response to formal action taken under the Public Health Acts, defects in 22 houses were remedied by their owners.

As a result of informal action taken during the period, under the Public Health and Housing Acts, 113 houses were either rendered fit or improved.

SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

The number of licensed slaughterhouses in the district remains at two, but little use has been of them during the year. The inspection of meat has been carried out at these premises and routine visits made to butchers shops.

*Meat inspected and condemned*

Top piece Argentine beef	74 lb.	Bone Taint
Imported pigs liver	20 lb.	Mould

*Food inspected and condemned*

Pork luncheon meat	11¾ lb.	5 tins
Italian peeled tomatoes	24½ lb.	28 tins
Soup mix	5 lb.	10 tins
Corned beef	6 lb.	1 tin
Sweets	140 lb.	35 boxes
Ham	9½ lb.	1 tin

## FOOD PREMISES

Regular inspection has been maintained during the year of all classes of food premises in the district and a constant effort has been made to ensure the proper hygienic standards. In addition to the handling of food, this work involves the hygiene of shops and other premises and also the facilities for the welfare of employees in the food trade.

The following visits have been made to food premises in the area:

Licensed premises	140
Shops	89
Restaurant kitchens	8
Bakehouses	13
Other food premises	23
	<hr/>
	273
	<hr/>

*Action taken.* Informal notices have been served in respect of 16 premises in connection with washing facilities, sanitary accommodation, cleansing and re-decoration, etc.

The improvement of food premises has again continued satisfactorily during the year. The improvement of licensed premises has also been maintained and several large schemes of reconstruction have been carried out.

The following table shows the work of improvement to food premises carried out during the year:

	<i>No. of premises</i>
<i>Licensed premises</i>	
Major schemes of reconditioning	7
New or improved sanitary accommodation provided	2
New bathrooms or kitchens provided	2
New sinks provided	2
Hot water supply provided	10
Mains water supply provided	6
<i>Shops and other food premises</i>	
Mains water supply provided	5
Hot water supply provided	13
New sinks or wash hand basins provided	8
New sanitary accommodation provided	2
Repairs and re-decorations	2

There have been no large changes during the year in the number and type of food premises nor under the section headed 'Food and Drugs Act 1938-54'. pp. 65-6 of the 1954 report.

*Food Poisoning*

Six cases were notified during the year. For details, see FOOD POISONING (p. 12).



SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

						Number of cases notified		
						Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	11	3	14
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	23	32	55
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	286	268	554
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	8	7	15
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	...	6	5	11
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	...	17	11	28
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	2	4	6
Malaria	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Pueperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	...	—	3	3
TOTALS						358	338	696

TUBERCULOSIS

	NewCases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	17	16	22	20	13	9	1	1
Non-Pulmonary	3	4	3	2	—	1	—	—
TOTALS	20	20	25	22	13	10	1	1

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

*(a) Inspection of Factories*

Premises	Number in Register	Inspec- tions made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prose- cuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply	19	21	1	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies	76	80	4	—
3. Other premises	25	28	—	—
TOTALS	120	129	5	—

*(b) Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Want of cleanliness (Sec. 1)	3	2	—
Ineffective Drainage of floors (Sec. 6)	1	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (Sec. 7)			
(a) Insufficient	1	1	1
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	1
TOTALS	7	4	2

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47

No action was needed under this Section of the Act during the year, nor under the National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951.

Section 50

As it appeared that no other suitable arrangements had been, or were being, made, arrangements were made under this Section of the Act for the burial of a stillborn child born in a caravan at Morris's Field, Garsington Road, Cowley. (Littlemore Parish.)

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT 1949

The following is an analysis of the work carried out during the year under this Act.

ITEM	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	Agricultural	All other (including business premises)	Total
1. Number of properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	10	156	5	11	182
(b) Survey under the Act	42	373	63	20	498
(c) Otherwise (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	18	43	7	243	311
2. Total inspections carried out, including reinspections	159	815	99	311	1384
3. Number of properties inspected (in Sect. 1) which were found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats { Major	—	—	1	1	2
Minor	47	408	10	10	475
(b) Mice { Major	—	—	—	1	1
Minor	—	7	—	—	7
4. Number of infested properties (in Sect. 3) treated by the L.A.	47	415	11	12	485
5. Total treatments carried out, including re-treatments	85	626	16	20	747
6. Number of 'Block' control schemes carried out	97	—	—	—	97
7. Estimated number of rats and mice destroyed, 15,000.					

# SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK DURING THE YEAR 1955

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	4247
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	530
Number of notices served (Informal)	...	...	...	...	...	348
Number of notices served (Statutory)	...	...	...	...	...	58
Number of Prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## *Number of Defects or Nuisances abated*

As to privies, W.C.s, sink wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	93
As to drains and cesspools	...	...	...	...	88
As to factories	...	...	...	...	4
As to insanitary accumulations or deposits	...	...	...	...	17
As to polluted ditches or streams	...	...	...	...	3
As to animals	...	...	...	...	4
As to disrepair of houses	...	...	...	...	196
Nature of repairs carried out:					
Roofs	...	...	...	...	20
External walls	...	...	...	...	13
Internal walls	...	...	...	...	13
Windows	...	...	...	...	19
Doors	...	...	...	...	3
Floors	...	...	...	...	26
Grates	...	...	...	...	12
Staircases	...	...	...	...	6
Gutterings	...	...	...	...	14
Sinks	...	...	...	...	21
Ceilings	...	...	...	...	22
Coppers	...	...	...	...	1
Chimney stacks	...	...	...	...	8
Decorations	...	...	...	...	50
Number of water samples taken	...	...	...	...	115
Number of houses disinfected	...	...	...	...	12
Number of houses disinfested	...	...	...	...	9
Number of houses from which bedding was steam disinfected	...	...	...	...	5



HENLEY RURAL DISTRICT

SECTION A

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA  
(1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	Estimated Population (1955)	Civilian Dwellings (Inc. Huts and Caravans)	Rateable Value £	Product of Penny Rate £
Bix ... ..	2469	460	159	3069	11
Checkendon ...	2567	850	140	4381	18
Crowmarsh ...	4252	990	273	7961	27
Eye and Dunsden	3348	1600	487	10770	44
Goring ... ..	2356	1980	561	18512	73
Goring Heath ...	2851	960	284	5016	19
Harpsden ... ..	2173	350	131	5609	22
Highmoor ... ..	1304	460	116	3134	15
Ipsden ... ..	2214	300	93	2797	12
Kidmore End ...	2553	1370	455	8929	33
Mapledurham ...	3068	1480	504	13586	50
Nettlebed ... ..	1527	700	218	4140	18
Nuffield ... ..	2138	500	72	3508	16
Pishill with Stonor	2612	370	109	1568	6
Rotherfield Greys	2096	380	117	3120	13
Rotherfield Peppard	1760	1340	345	9680	41
Shiplake ... ..	2375	1630	392	11616	46
Sonning Common	910	2170	498	10097	40
South Stoke ...	1890	450	131	1901	8
Stoke Row ... ..	1737	550	180	2936	11
Swyncombe ... ..	3595	380	109	1599	6
Whitchurch ... ..	1323	400	202	5265	20
Woodcote ... ..	2179	780	251	5228	21
TOTALS ... ..	53297	20450	5827	£144422	£570

(2) SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	53297
Population:							
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54) Home Population	...						20270
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.55) Home Population	...						20450
Census (1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	19979
Number of Inhabited Houses (1954)	...	...	...	...	...	...	5677
		(1955)	...	...	...	...	5827
Rateable Value	...	...	...	...	...	...	£144422
Product of a Penny Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	£570

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The district is mainly agricultural and residential. There are a few light industries, such as instrument-making and coach-building, and also a number of saw mills. The bulk of the occupied population is therefore employed in agriculture, forestry, saw mills, quarrying, building construction and light industry.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Henley R.D.						
Legitimate	...	144	157	301	14.7	
Illegitimate	...	8	2	10	0.5	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	171	159	311	15.2	15.2
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	15.0	

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Henley R.D.						
Legitimate	...	1	5	6	19.5	
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	90.9	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	2	5	7		22.0
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		23.1

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population)	
					Crude	Corrected
Henley R.D.	...	107	89	196	9.6	8.8
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		11.7

CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...	3	1	4	2.04	= 10
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...					
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...					
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	4	1	5	2.55	9
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	3		3	1.53	= 14
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		1	1	.51	= 21
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus		1	1	.51	= 21
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	5	9	14	7.14	5
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ...	1	2	3	1.53	= 14
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	11	21	32	16.32	2
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	15	11	26	13.26	3
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	2		2	1.02	= 17
20. Other heart disease ...	23	15	38	19.38	1
21. Other circulatory disease ...	5	4	9	4.59	7
22. Influenza ...		2	2	1.02	= 17
23. Pneumonia ...	6	4	10	5.10	6
24. Bronchitis ...	6	1	7	3.57	8
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	2		2	1.02	= 17
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	1	2	3	1.53	= 14
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...					
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	2		2	1.02	= 17
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...					
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...	2	2	4	2.04	= 10
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	10	10	20	10.20	4
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...					
34. All other accidents ...	3	1	4	2.04	= 10
35. Suicide ...	3	1	4	2.04	= 10
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	107	89	196 (*141)	100. (*71.9)	

\*Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.64 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.



## INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate	...	5	2	7	23.3
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	5	2	7	22.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	24.9*

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Neo-Natal Mor- tality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Henley R.D.					
Legitimate	...	5	1	6	19.9
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	5	1	6	19.6
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.3* (provisional figure)

## SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

As the Public Health Laboratory at the Battle Hospital, Reading, is nearer to Henley than the Oxford Laboratory, some practitioners prefer to send their specimens there, where they are examined by Dr. Wood.

## SECTION C

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

NOTE:—The following report on water supply and sewerage refers not only to 1955, but is complete up to the end of the financial year, i.e. to March 31st, 1956.

(\* per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1955 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

*Water Supply.* No difficulties in supply have arisen since the last report, the district being mainly served by the South Oxfordshire Water, Henley Water Company, and smaller areas by Reading Corporation. Over 90% of all properties have a piped mains supply. (See table on p. 80.)

The 14-inch rising main from Goring to the Woodcote reservoirs is completed. Reading Corporation are constructing a covered concrete service reservoir of a capacity of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million gallons at Kiln Lane, Emmer Green, and also a booster station at Peppard Road, Emmer Green.

During the past year, the Berkshire County Council have convened several meetings of interested local authorities and water undertakings with a view to considering possible implementation of the Government's policy that small water undertakings should amalgamate, if this would bring about advantages in distribution, availability of water sources or financial savings, etc.

### SAMPLING

During the year 22 samples of water were examined bacteriologically. The results of these examinations are as follows:

Main Water Supply Ministry of Health Classification				Well Water Supply (including piped into house)		
Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Sus- picious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	Satisfac- tory	Slightly Con- taminated	Grossly Con- taminated
8	—	—	—	1	6	7

The table at the close of this Section includes a summary of the types of water supply available in each parish.

*Sewage Disposal.* Of the 5827 dwellings in the R.D. 11.2% are now connected to public sewers, 73.2% to soakaways, cesspools or septic tanks of varying efficiency, and as many as 15.6% are quoted as having no drainage at all.

#### *New Sewerage Works.*

*Goring.* The carrying out of Stage 2 of this sewerage scheme, which will serve the congested areas in the centre of Goring, is well under way and should be completed by the end of the year (1956).

Up to the present time, half the number of properties covered by the Stage 1 of the scheme have been connected to the sewers, which have been available since July, 1955.

*Nettlebed.* The main drainage scheme for Nettlebed has proceeded satisfactorily and is nearly completed.

## SUMMARY OF TYPE OF WATER SUPPLY, DRAINAGE ARRANGEMENTS AND CLOSET PROVISION

Parish	Drainage				Water				Sanitation				TOTAL NUMBER OF DWLLGS*
	To Sewer	Soak- away	Cesspool or septic tank	None	Main	Wells (Piped)	Wells (Ext.)	Without Separate Supply	W.C.	Pail Closet	Chemi- cal Closet	Vault Closet	
Bix ...	—	12	121	26	136	5	9	9	93	52	14	—	159
Checkendon ...	—	20	100	20	124	8	7	1	78	56	6	—	140
Crowmarsh ...	—	33	177	63	237	1	27	8	156	105	12	—	273
Eye and Dunsden ...	251	34	168	34	457	12	4	14	401	75	11	—	487
Goring ...	83	15	424	39	527	10	11	13	442	107	12	—	561
Goring Heath ...	—	55	149	80	268	10	3	3	139	123	22	—	284
Harpsden ...	—	11	107	13	126	2	1	2	90	32	9	—	131
Higmoor ...	—	1	94	21	110	—	4	2	87	25	4	—	116
Ipsden ...	—	22	54	17	62	5	17	9	49	35	8	1	93
Kidmore End ...	47	8	345	55	429	9	11	6	382	62	11	—	455
Mapledurham ...	266	25	153	60	481	8	6	9	419	60	25	—	504
Nettlebed ...	—	15	149	54	202	4	10	2	139	69	10	—	218
Nuffield ...	—	2	53	17	65	—	7	—	53	15	4	—	72
Pishill-with-Stonor ...	—	24	31	54	51	16	29	13	31	57	17	4	109
Rotherfield Greys ...	—	8	91	18	113	1	3	—	91	21	5	—	117
Rotherfield Peppard ...	—	14	284	47	333	—	3	9	266	71	8	—	345
Shiplake ...	—	17	324	51	374	2	9	7	291	88	13	—	392
Sonning Common ...	—	7	407	84	474	11	12	1	387	80	30	1	498
South Stoke ...	—	4	96	31	119	—	7	5	78	53	—	—	131
Stoke Row ...	—	45	98	37	160	1	19	—	86	77	17	—	180
Swyncombe ...	—	2	44	63	63	9	27	10	35	57	15	2	109
Whitchurch ...	9	10	177	6	177	6	10	9	157	36	9	—	202
Woodcote ...	—	25	209	17	235	7	7	2	185	49	17	—	251
TOTALS	656	409	3855	907	5323	127	243	134	4135	1405	279	8	5827
As a percentage of total.	11.2%	7.0%	66.2%	15.6%	91.3%	2.2%	4.2%	2.3%	71.0%	24.1%	4.8%	0.1%	

\* This table now shows all the dwellings in the district, including huts and caravans. In previous years only those properties under £20 rateable value have been shown.



## SECTION D

### HOUSING

#### *Rural Housing Survey*

The undermentioned figures show the categories of houses under a rateable value of £20 as at 1st January, 1955. The figures have been revised into the new parishes following the Alteration of Rural Parishes Order, 1952.

Date In-spected	Parish	Categories				Total	Those over £20 R.V.
		1	2	3	4		
1945	Nettlebed ...	66	65	14	7	152	31
"	Bix ...	55	50	12	—	117	28
"	R. Greys ...	33	39	8	—	80	31
1946	Highmoor ...	24	38	6	—	68	31
"	R. Peppard ...	52	68	40	1	161	96
"	South Stoke ...	49	16	24	—	89	18
"	Woodcote ...	86	19	40	2	147	26
"	Harpsden ...	25	46	19	—	90	42
1947	Kidmore End ...	108	96	40	6	250	74
"	Sonning Common	139	137	25	—	301	68
"	Stoke Row ...	51	37	44	1	133	26
1948	Ipsden ...	27	20	28	—	75	15
"	Checkendon ...	54	21	30	—	105	22
1948/49	Goring ...	168	89	57	1	315	154
"	Shiplake ...	68	76	66	6	216	126
1949	Goring Heath ...	81	59	84	8	232	35
"	Dunsden ...	175	51	72	3	301	136
"	Whitchurch ...	31	18	21	—	70	48
1950	Mapledurham ...	35	58	32	2	127	287
1953	Nuffield ...	35	14	15	—	64	10
"	Pishill ...	21	14	55	5	95	11
1954	Swyncombe ...	30	17	40	—	87	11
1955	Crowmarsh ...	79	14	69	5	167	35
Totals		1492	1062	841	47	3442	1361

(Note: this table excludes all post-war houses)

The Survey was begun in 1945 and completed in 1950 by which time 3482\* houses had been inspected. Houses were placed in one of the following categories:

#### *Key to Categories:*

Category 1 Satisfactory in all respects.

Category 2 Minor defects.

Category 3 Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.

Category 4 Unfit for habitation and beyond repair at reasonable expense.

Re-surveying started in 1953 and during the year 1955 the parish of Crowmarsh was re-surveyed.

\* The original number of 3482 was reduced by 1.1.1956 to 3442 by the conversion of certain unsatisfactory multiple properties into a lower number of modernized units, and by demolition of Category 4 cottages and the application of closing orders.



HUTS AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

Hut Sites	Number of occupied huts thereon
Kingwood Camp, Peppard ...	36
Whitchurch Camp ...	48
Tanner's Farm Camp ...	19
TOTAL	103

A total of 36 huts less were in use at 31.12.55 (103) compared with 31.12.54 (139), demolitions being effected at Kingwood, Tanner's Farm and Garson's Camp. Both Garson's and Crowmarsh Camps have now been de-requisitioned.

CARAVANS

The R.D. have licensed four caravan sites, as follows.

- (1) Harvey's Nurseries, Emmer Green, for 75 caravans.
- (2) Swiss Farm, Henley, for 26 caravans. (For holiday use only.)
- (3) Peppard Chest Hospital, for 15 caravans.
- (4) 'The Coach and Horses', Binfield Heath, for 5 caravans.

These allocations have been fully taken up, giving a total of 121 vans.

In addition to the above licensed sites, the council have issued 104 individual licences for caravans, renewable annually as long as they prove satisfactory and equally terminable where they prove unsatisfactory.

The R.D. has thus a total of 225 caravans licensed for human occupation, and under its constant supervision.

TOTAL MOVEABLE DWELLINGS (huts plus caravans) ... 328

OVERCROWDING AND THE DEMAND FOR NEW HOUSING

There are 97 families known to be without separate homes and in addition other cases are known in which families are occupying accommodation too small for them.

At the end of 1955 there were 338 applications for Council Houses outstanding. 97 of them were from the people without separate homes, and 84 from occupants of huts converted by the council into living accommodation.

INSPECTIONS MADE, NOTICES SERVED AND ORDERS MADE

	Under the Public Health Act, 1936	Under the Housing Act, 1936
Inspections made ...	1430	760
Notices served		
Informal ...	36	31
Statutory ...	3	17
Orders made		
Closing Orders ...	—	1
Demolition Orders ...	—	5
Undertakings not to relet ...	—	9



SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district, both small private ones at the rear of butchers' shops. No regular slaughtering has, however, taken place, but there is occasional slaughtering of cottagers' pigs. Inspection of meat and meat products is carried out at the six butchers' shops in the district during the course of routine visits.

FOOD INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

- (a) *Meat and Meat Products*
  - 1 tin (1 lb.) stewed steak.
  - 1 tin (12oz) lambs tongues.
  - 3 tins (18 lb.) corned beef
  - 100 lb. imported beef.
- (b) *Dairy Produce*
  - 5 tins evaporated milk.
- (c) *Miscellaneous*
  - 17 tins of fruit, etc.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS

There are four registered distributors of milk with dairy premises (other than farms) within the rural district.

The following dealers and supplementary licences are now in force under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations:

(a) Dealers Licences granted for Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	6
(b)       ,,       ,,       ,,       ,, Pasteurized       ,,	...	5
(c) Supplementary       ,,       ,, Tuberculin Tested       ,,	...	4
(d)       ,,       ,,       ,,       ,, Pasteurized       ,,	...	4

ICE CREAM

46 premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice cream and one for its sale and manufacture.

The following samples were taken during the course of the year:

	Grade One	Two	Three	Four	All Grades
No. of samples       ...       ...	10	Nil	3	Nil	13
Percentage (approx.)       ...       ...	77%	Nil	23%	Nil	100%

Retailers are notified of the result of samples taken and in the case of poor results the authority, in whose area the ice cream was manufactured, is also notified.

FOOD POISONING. One case was notified during the year.

SECTION F  
PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	5	3	8
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
Measles	...	...	...	...	160	153	313
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	14	14	28
Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
Totals					186	177	363

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary	6	4	6	12	7	7	3	1
Non-Pulmonary	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—
TOTAL ...	6	6	7	12	7	8	3	1

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspections of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspec- tions made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prose- cuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	2	2	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ...	32	30	3	—
3. Other premises ...	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	34	32	3	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences			
1. Unsuitable or Defective	3	3	—
2. Want of Cleanliness ...	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	3	3	—

# SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK IN THE YEAR 1955

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	260
Number of notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	...	67
Number of notices served (statutory)	...	...	...	...	...	21
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	—

## NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE

<i>re</i> Housing—surveys and disrepair	...	...	...	...	...	760
,, Public cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	520
,, Food hygiene	...	...	...	...	...	150
,, Caravans and moveable dwellings	...	...	...	...	...	210
,, Factories and work-shops	...	...	...	...	...	32
,, Dairies and milk-shops	...	...	...	...	...	22
,, Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	35
,, Water supplies	...	...	...	...	...	58
,, Water samples taken for analysis	...	...	...	...	...	22
,, Infectious disease cases	...	...	...	...	...	26
,, Drainage and cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	410
,, Public Health nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	215
,, Ice cream premises	...	...	...	...	...	25
,, Re-visits to premises under notice	...	...	...	...	...	360
Total:						2845

## NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED

As to Accumulation and deposits	...	...	...	...	...	5
As to Privies, W.C.s, Sink Wastes, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	12
As to Drains and cesspools	...	...	...	...	...	25
As to Pigs and other animals	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of premises disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	12
Number of premises disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	4
Number of conservancy closets replaced by W.C.s	...	...	...	...	...	27
Number of wells closed and main water provided	...	...	...	...	...	16
Housing Repairs:						
Remedying dampness	...	...	...	...	...	14
Roof repairs	...	...	...	...	...	18
Guttering	...	...	...	...	...	10
Floors	...	...	...	...	...	13



RODENT CONTROL

The Council continue to operate a rodent control service, free to occupiers of domestic dwellings. A small charge is made to business premises. One full-time operator is employed, with transport facilities.  
*Number of Surveys carried out:*

(a) Domestic Dwellings	...	...	599
(b) Agricultural Properties		...	219
(c) Business Premises	...	...	25
<i>Number of Treatments</i>	...	...	290
<i>Number of Notices Served</i>	...	...	Nil

## PLOUGHLEY RURAL DISTRICT

## SECTION A

## STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

## (1) PARISHES

Parish	Area (Acres)	Esti- mated Home Popula- tion Mid 1955	1st April, 1956		
			Civilian Dwellings (including Huts, Caravans and Married Quarters)	(Beginnng of the Financial year) Rateable Value £	Product of a Penny Rate £
Ambrosden ... ..	1515	2672	246	19619	130
Ardley ... ..	1493	412	110	2559	9
Arncott ... ..	1700	3397	54	33088	233
Begbroke ... ..	602	512	118	4846	19
Blackthorn ... ..	2085	439	117	2872	10
Bletchington ... ..	2654	664	177	4556	18
Bucknell ... ..	2152	334	81	2043	8
Caversfield ... ..	1131	801	147	6447	41
Charlton-on-Otmoor ... ..	822	311	83	1822	7
Chesterton ... ..	3325	575	140	2749	11
Cottesford ... ..	1702	176	47	1049	4
Fencott and Murcott ... ..	3333	169	45	941	4
Finnere ... ..	1570	330	88	2150	8
Fringford ... ..	1460	499	133	2306	9
Fritwell ... ..	1263	532	142	2988	12
Godington ... ..	1019	52	14	248	1
Gosford and Water Eaton ... ..	2360	484	129	9387	43
Hampton Gay and Poyle	1521	142	38	885	3
Hardwicke-with- Tusmore ... ..	1124	86	23	811	3
Hethe ... ..	1425	424	113	1988	8
Horton-cum-Studley ... ..	2237	297	70	1638	6
Islip ... ..	2009	746	199	5847	24
Kidlington ... ..	2162	6967	1858	62895	265
Kirtlington ... ..	3582	742	198	4206	17
Launton ... ..	2818	671	179	7025	37
Lower Heyford ... ..	1765	525	140	2468	9
Merton ... ..	1932	187	50	9037	61
Middleton Stoney ... ..	1853	244	65	2368	9
Mixbury ... ..	2449	251	67	1275	5
Newton Purcell-with Shelswell ... ..	1424	142	38	634	2
Noke ... ..	794	105	28	571	2
Oddington ... ..	1363	109	29	552	2
Piddington ... ..	2354	636	143	11260	75
Shipton-on-Cherwell and Thrupp ... ..	1724	447	114	8836	36
Somerton ... ..	1977	266	71	2579	8
Souldern ... ..	1976	525	140	2747	11
Stoke Lyne ... ..	3901	270	72	1874	8
Stratton Audley ... ..	2308	341	91	3210	12
Upper Heyford ... ..	1628	827	210	16407	95
Wendlebury ... ..	1154	195	52	1027	4
Weston-on-the-Green ... ..	2483	429	101	4795	21
Yarnton ... ..	1762	1087	290	8872	35
TOTALS ... ..	79911	29020	6250	£264072*	£1325

\* This total includes £145 R.V. in respect of Gas Board Heriditements.

(2) SUMMARY OF PRINCIPAL STATISTICS

Area in Acres	...	...	...	...	...	79911
Population: (Home)						
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.54)	...	...				28540
R.G.'s Mid-year Estimate (30.6.55)	...	...				29020
Census (April 1951)	...	...	...	...		24203
Number of Inhabited Dwellings (1954)	...	...				6091
„ „ „ „ (1.4.56)	...	...				6250

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

The main occupation of the district is agriculture. There is no major industry but many people travel daily into Oxford to work, particularly at Morris Motors and the Pressed Steel Company. The largest single employer of labour in the district is the Base Ordnance Depot at Arncott. There are also a cement works and a bacon factory.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR  
 BIRTHS

LIVE BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Live Birth Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude      Corrected	
Ploughley						
Legitimate	...	233	207	440	15.2	
Illegitimate	...	11	8	19	0.7	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	244	215	459	15.8	22.5
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		15.0

STILL BIRTHS

		Males	Females	Persons	Still Birth Rate (per 1000 total births)	
Ploughley						
Legitimate	...	6	4	10	22.2	
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	NIL	
		<hr/>				
TOTAL	...	6	4	10		21.3
		<hr/>				
England and Wales	...	...	...	...		23.1

DEATHS

DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES

		Males	Females	Persons	Death Rate (per 1000 of the home population) Crude      Corrected	
Ploughley	...	103	84	187	6.4	9.5
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	11.7	



CAUSES OF DEATH AS CLASSIFIED BY THE REGISTRAR GENERAL

	Male	Female	Persons	As a per-centage of the total	Order of fre-quency
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory ...					
2. Tuberculosis, other ...					
3. Syphilitic disease ...					
4. Diphtheria ...					
5. Whooping Cough ...					
6. Meningococcal infections ...					
7. Acute Poliomyelitis ...					
8. Measles ...					
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases ...	1		1	.535	=20
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	2	4	2.140	=12
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ...	2	1	3	1.605	=16
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast		3	3	1.605	=16
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus					
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	10	9	19	10.165	4
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia ...					
16. Diabetes ...	2		2	1.070	19
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system ...	10	14	24	12.840	=2
18. Coronary disease, angina ...	13	11	24	12.840	=2
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	3	1	4	2.140	=12
20. Other heart disease ...	13	15	28	14.980	1
21. Other circulatory disease ...	3	2	5	2.675	=10
22. Influenza ...					
23. Pneumonia ...	5	5	10	5.350	7
24. Bronchitis ...	3	3	6	3.210	9
25. Other diseases of respiratory system ...	3	1	4	2.140	=12
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	4		4	2.140	=12
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea ...	1		1	.535	=20
28. Nephritis and nephrosis ...	1		1	.535	=20
29. Hyperplasia of prostate ...	1		1	.535	=20
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...					
31. Congenital malformations ...	2	5	7	3.745	8
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases ...	8	8	16	8.560	5
33. Motor vehicle accidents ...	11	1	12	6.420	6
34. All other accidents ...	3		3	1.605	=16
35. Suicide ...	2	3	5	2.675	=10
36. Homicide and operations of war ...					
ALL CAUSES:	103	84	187 (*129)	100.045 (*69.015)	

\* Cancer, heart disease and chest disease combined.

MATERNAL MORTALITY

There were no deaths from puerperal causes during the year. In England and Wales the maternal mortality rate was 0.64 maternal deaths per 1000 total (live and still) births.

INFANT MORTALITY

Deaths of Infants under one year of age.

		Males	Females	Persons	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Ploughley					
Legitimate	...	7	6	13	29.5
Illegitimate	...	1	—	1	52.6
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	8	6	14	30.5
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	24.9*

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age

		Males	Females	Persons	Neonatal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)
Ploughley					
Legitimate	...	5	5	10	22.7
Illegitimate	...	—	—	—	Nil
		<hr/>			
TOTAL	...	5	5	10	21.8
		<hr/>			
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	17.3* (Provisional Figure)

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

*Laboratory Work.* This is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Walton Street, Oxford, under the supervision of Dr. R. L. Vollum.

SECTION C

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

*Water Supply.* The Oxford City Northern Water Scheme is still in abeyance and meanwhile the Council is continuing its policy of setting up independent water undertakings in villages by making use of local sources of supply.

(continued on p. 96)

(\*per 1000 *related* live births, i.e. births occurring, not during the calendar year 1955 but during the twelve months in which the babies who died were themselves born.)

## WATER SUPPLY

Parish	Source of Supply	Quantity	Quality	New Works				Water Suppliers
				Proposed for the Future	In preparation	Under construction	Recently constructed	
Ambrosden ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board
Ardley ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Arncott ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board.
Begbroke ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Blackthorn ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board, and Council bore-hole as an alternative source of supply.
Bletchington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Bucknell ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	
Caversfield ...	Wells and private mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Water from Bicester U.D.C. and R.A.F. mains.
Charlton-on-Otmoor	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City water.
Chesterton ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole



Cottesford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Fencott and Murcott	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water.
Finmere ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Water from Bucks. Water Board.
Fringford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Fritwell ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Godington ...	Mains & wells	Fair	Good	—	—	—	Private supply from farm bore-hole.
Gosford and Water Eaton	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Hampton Gay and Poyle	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Hardwick with Tusmore	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	Private supply from bore-hole.
Hethe ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Council bore-hole
Horton-cum-Studley	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board and supply from springs controlled by Council.
Islip ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Kidlington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Kirtlington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	Supply from Council bore-hole.

(Continued overleaf)

WATER SUPPLY (*Continued*)

Parish	Source of Supply	Quantity	Quality	New Works				Water Suppliers
				Future	In Preparation	Under Construction	Recently Constructed	
Launton ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Lower Heyford ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole at Upper Heyford
Merton ...	Wells	Good	Fair	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board	Supply from Bucks. Water Board via W.D. mains.
Middleton Stoney ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Water supply from R.A.F. via Bicester U.D.C. Scheme administered by Jersey Estate.
Mixbury ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board via Brackley R.D.C.
Newton Purcell with Shelswell	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board
Noke ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City area of supply.
Oddington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City water.
Piddington ...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Bucks. Water Board via W.D. mains.
Shipton-on-Cherwell	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Supply from private bore-hole—and Oxford City.

Somerton	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Souldern	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Stoke Lyne	...	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Stratton Audley	...	Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	Main supply from Council's bore-hole.	Supply from Council's bore-hole.
Thrupp	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking.
Upper Heyford	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Council bore-hole.
Wendlebury	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Main supply from Chesterton
Weston-on-the-Green		Mains and wells	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Main supply from Chesterton
Yarnton	...	Mains	Good	Good	—	—	—	—	Oxford City Water Undertaking



(continued from p. 91)

This the Council is doing in order to avoid the delay which would be inevitable were action postponed until a more comprehensive scheme were practicable. The individual undertakings are planned so that they can later form part of a larger undertaking if need be.

At the end of the year, of the 6250 occupied dwellings (which include married quarters, huts and caravans) 5292 had a piped main water supply (5280 direct into the house and 12 to a stand pipe) and 958 were dependent upon wells, the water in 856 cases being piped into the house. 614 houses were connected to a main water supply during the year.

During the year 76 specimens of water were examined. The results of these examinations are given below.

Main Water Supply Ministry of Health Classification				Well Water Supply (including piped into house)		
Class 1 Highly Satisfactory	Class 2 Satis- factory	Class 3 Sus- picious	Class 4 Unsatis- factory	Satis- factory	Slightly Con- tamin- ated	Grossly Con- tamin- ated
15	—	5	—	14	30	12
Per cent: 75	—	25	—	25	54	21

The details of the water supply of each parish are summarized in the table given on pp. 92-95. Military establishments are *not* included.

*Water and Sewer Connections:*

The table below shows the number of old and new Premises connected to a main water supply, and the Council's sewer during the year. These figures do not include military establishments:

<i>Parish</i>	<i>Main water supply</i>			<i>Council's sewer</i>
Ambrosden	...	...	13	—
Ardley	...	...	10	4
Arncott	...	...	3	—
Begbroke	...	...	12	—
Blackthorn	...	...	2	—
Bletchingdon	...	...	13	9
Bucknell	...	...	—	1
Charlton-on-Otmoor	...		2	—

Chesterton	...	...	1	20
Fencott and Murcott	...		5	—
Finmere	...	...	3	—
Fringford	...	...	5	1
Fritwell	...	...	8	—
Gosford and Water Eaton			1	8
Hethe	...	...	18	—
Islip	...	...	6	4
Kidlington	...	...	405	328
Launton	...	...	6	2
Lower Heyford	...	...	14	3
Merton	...	...	14	—
Mixbury	...	...	2	—
Newton Purcell	...	...	4	—
Piddington	...	...	3	—
Shipton-on-Cherwell	...		1	—
Somerton	...	...	5	—
Souldern	...	...	14	—
Stoke Lyne	...	...	1	8
Stratton Audley	...	...	11	4
Upper Heyford	...	...	9	—
Wendlebury	...	...	8	—
Weston-on-the-Green	...		9	—
Yarnton	...	...	16	6
			—	—
			614	398
			—	—

## DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE—NEW WORKS

Parish	New Works				Remarks
	Proposed for the Future	In preparation	Under construction	Recently constructed	
Ambrosden ...	—	To W.D. system.	—	—	Negotiations in progress with W.D. to accept sewage into military system.
Arncott ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	” ” ” ”
Blackthorn ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	” ” ” ”
Bletchington ...	—	Scheme being prepared.	—	—	—
Islip ...	—	—	Small extension of existing system.	—	—
Kirtlington ...	—	Scheme being prepared.	—	—	—
Lower Heyford ...	—	—	—	—	—
Merton ...	To W.D. system.	—	—	—	Negotiations in progress as for Ambrosden.
Mixbury ...	Village scheme to be prepared.	—	—	—	—
Souldern ...	—	Village scheme	—	—	—
Yarnton ...	—	Combined scheme with Kidlington and Gosford and Water Eaton.	—	—	—



SECTION D  
 HOUSING

(a) During 1955

Houses Erected by											
Parish	Local Authority										Private Enter-prise
	Num-ber	Analysis by Type*								Number	
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		
Ardley ... ..	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arncott ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Begbroke ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Bletchington ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Bucknell ... ..	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Charlton-on-Otmoor	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Chesterton ... ..	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	—
Fencott & Murcott ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Islip ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Kidlington ... ..	89	—	—	—	—	—	8	5	76	195	—
Launton ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Stoke Lyne ... ..	10	—	6	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—
Stratton Audley ...	4	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Upper Heyford ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Weston-on-the-Green	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Yarnton ... ..	6	4	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	135	12	10	—	—	4	8	5	96	214	

- \*Definitions of Types:
1. Traditional two bedroom, non-parlour.
  2. Traditional three bedroom, parlour.
  3. Traditional three bedroom, non-parlour.
  4. Pre-fab, three bedroom, parlour (Airey houses).
  5. Traditional bungalows.
  6. Non-traditional bungalows.
  7. Non-traditional two bedroom.
  8. Non-traditional three bedroom.

(b) During 1946-55: see table on pages 102 and 103.

Huts and Movable Dwellings

Number of hut sites	...	...	...	...	...	2
Number of occupied huts	...	...	...	...	...	5
Number of caravans sites licensed	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
Number of licences issued to station caravans	...	...	...	...	...	98

Proposed Caravan Site at Merton Gunpark

The establishment of this site has not proved possible, largely owing to lack of public demand.

*Overcrowding and the demand for new housing.* There appears to be little overcrowding by the standards of the Housing Act, 1936, but these are very low and too many families are obliged to live and to sleep in inadequate accommodation.

At the end of 1955 there were 220 applications for Council houses outstanding.

HOUSING

Since 1949 a great deal of work of the Public Health Department has been on the demolition and reconstruction of the large number of sub-standard houses in the area. Following the Rural Housing Survey, most of these houses have now been dealt with, and where the owners have not submitted schemes of repair Demolition Orders have been made. Other cottages have been reconstructed and put in a reasonable state of repair, some have been vacated and used as agricultural and other stores.

During the seven years 1949-55, 275 Demolition Orders have been served, 90 Undertakings to make premises fit and 54 Undertakings not to use for human habitation have been accepted, 98 premises have been demolished, and 65 premises have been made fit.

HOUSING ACT, 1949 and 1952, IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of applications received	...	...	...	66
Number of applications approved by L.A.	...	...	...	62
Number of applications withdrawn or rejected by L.A.				3
Number of applications under consideration	...	...	...	1

The figures given above again show an increased number of applications, and applications received during the beginning of 1956 are encouraging.

*Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year:*

1.	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	891
	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	3010
2.	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-heading 1 above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1936	...	...	354
	Number of inspections made for the purpose	...	...	749
3.	Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	28

4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	503
--	-----	-----	-----

<i>Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notice:</i>			
Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority of its Officers	...	...	166

*Action under Statutory Powers during the year:*

<i>(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:</i>			
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	...	...	1
Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notice:			
(a) By owners	...	...	12
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	—

<i>(B) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:</i>			
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be repaired	...	...	33
Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:			
(a) By owners	...	...	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners	...	...	1

<i>(C) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act 1936:</i>			
Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	...	...	26
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	...	...	10
Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Clearance Orders	...	...	—

<i>(D) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:</i>			
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	...	...	—
Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	...	...	—

(continued on p. 104)



(b) SUMMARY OF PROVISION OF NEW HOUSES, POST-WAR 1946-55

Houses Erected by																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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	Number completed in year(s)						Total number completed	Number under construction on 31.12.55	Number completed in year(s)						Total number completed	Number under construction on 31.12.55																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																													
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Ambrosden	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Kirtlington	...	22	—	—	—	13	5	—	—	—	40	6	22	—	58	24	22	25	181	73	58	13	26	142	212	214	665	204
Launton	...	22	—	—	—	2	10	—	—	—	34	6	28	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Lower Heyford	...	14	—	—	—	8	9	—	—	—	31	8	23	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—
Merton	...	8	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	12	—	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton Stoney	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mixbury	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Newton Purcell	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Noke	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Oddington	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Piddington	...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Shipton-on-Cherwell	...	18	—	—	—	—	24	—	—	—	42	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Somerton	...	2	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Souldern	...	6	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	20	—	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Stoke Lyne	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	16	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stratton Audley	...	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Thrupp	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Upper Heyford	...	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—
Wendlebury	...	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Weston-on-the-Green	...	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
Yarnton	...	47	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	86	32	54	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—
TOTALS	...	400	130	84	139	140	135	1028	152	566	—	58	24	22	25	181	73	58	13	26	142	212	214	665	204			

(continued from p. 101)

(E) *Proceedings under Sections 10 and 11 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1953:*

Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing  
Orders were made     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     —

*Housing Act, 1936—Part IV.—Overcrowding:*

Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year     —

Number of families dwelling therein     ...     ...     ...     —

Number of persons dwelling therein     ...     ...     ...     —

Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the  
year     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     ...     —

Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year     5

Number of persons concerned in such cases     ...     ...     43

Number of cases in which dwelling-houses have again  
become overcrowded after the Local Authority had taken  
steps for the abatement of overcrowding     ...     ...     ...     —

SECTION E  
FOOD INSPECTION

Following the de-rationing of Meat in July 1954, the Council considered applications for the re-licencing of Slaughter-houses in the area. After extensive alterations and improvements, six licences were granted and private slaughtering was again possible, giving an improved quality of meat to the local inhabitants. To give full protection to the public a 100 per cent inspection of all animals killed is made, but some of the slaughtering takes place in the late evenings and at week-ends, entailing several hours' overtime each week by the Meat Inspectors, and it is hoped that the promised legislation to control this will soon materialize.

Meat inspection is carried out mainly at the Kidlington Bacon Factory. Periodical inspections are also made in the butchers' shops of the area.



R  
 CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known) ... ..	282	25	86	1231	35577	—
Number Inspected ... ..	282	25	86	1231	35577	—
<i>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	—	—	5	33	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	44	6	3	19	4061	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci ...	15.6%	24.0%	3.4%	1.9%	11.5%	—
<i>Tuberculosis Only</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned ... ..	—	—	—	—	6	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	11	2	—	—	3189	—
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ...	3.9%	8.0%	—	—	9.0%	—
<i>Cysticercosis</i>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—

CONDEMNED FOOD

The following food-stuffs were condemned and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:

	lbs.
19 Whole carcasses of pig (Moribund) ... ..	2990
6 " " " (Tuberculosis) ... ..	897
2 " " " (Jaundice) ... ..	343
2 " " " (Asphyxia) ... ..	366
2 " " " (Oedema) ... ..	135
1 " " " (Dead on arrival) ... ..	207
1 " " " (Carcinoma) ... ..	442
1 " " " (Pyæmia) ... ..	146
1 " " " (Lacerations and Bruising) ... ..	141
1 " " " (Multiple Abscesses) ... ..	121
1 " " " (Suspect swine fever) ... ..	86
1 " " " (Verrucose endocarditis) ... ..	67
1 " " " (Decomposition) ... ..	50
1133 Pigs heads (Tuberculosis) ... ..	14755
21 " " (Abscesses) ... ..	300
1 " " " (Melanosis) ... ..	12
1867 " mesenteric fats, etc. (Tuberculosis) ... ..	37440
462 " " " (Congested) ... ..	9240
306 " plucks (Tuberculosis) ... ..	1836
241 " " (Pleurisy) ... ..	1446
2 " " (Septic pneumonia) ... ..	12
1 " " (Abscess) ... ..	6
349 " lungs and hearts (Tuberculosis) ... ..	1047
607 " lungs (Pneumonia) ... ..	1214
627 " hearts (Pericarditis) ... ..	313½
1471 " kidneys (Nephrosis) ... ..	368
140 " " (Encysted) ... ..	35
578 " livers (Parasitical) ... ..	1361
3 " fore-ends (Abscesses) ... ..	61

4	Pigs fore-ends (Fracture - bruising)	...	...	...	...	98
2	" " (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	45
13	" flare fats (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	28
39	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	101
2	" " (Inflammation)	...	...	...	...	4
11	" gammons (Fracture - bruising)	...	...	...	...	192
3	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	54
2	" " (Blood-splashing)	...	...	...	...	32
	Pigs flank trimmings (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	128
	" " " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	20
	" pieces of neck (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	55
	" " " " (Abscesses)	...	...	...	...	4
	" hind-quarters (Mastitis)	...	...	...	...	31
3	" bellys (Mastitis)	...	...	...	...	21
1	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	27
2	Sows " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	35
1	" " (Mammitis)	...	...	...	...	12
7	" " (Mastitis)	...	...	...	...	164
	Portions Sows bellys (Mastitis)	...	...	...	...	122
1	Sows leg (Fracture—Bruising)	...	...	...	...	38
1	" hindquarter (Fracture—bruising)	...	...	...	...	28
	" gammon (Ruptured muscles)	...	...	...	...	31
1	Calfs lungs and hearts (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	3
1	" " (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	5
1	" hind-quarters (Damaged—Cow-kick)	...	...	...	...	17
1	Cows udder (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	35
1	" liver (Cirrhosis)	...	...	...	...	9
1	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	11
1	" lung (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	10
1	" " (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	12
1	" head-less tongue (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	40
1	" rump trimmings (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	15
1	Ox head-less tongue (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	42
2	" lungs and hearts (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	20
1	" " " " (do.)	...	...	...	...	14
1	" lungs (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	12
4	" " (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	34
3	" heads and tongues (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	99
8	" livers (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	79
3	" " (Cirrhosis)	...	...	...	...	29
1	" " (Distomatosis)	...	...	...	...	12
2	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	22
1	" tongue (Actinomycosis)	...	...	...	...	7
2	Ewes whole carcasses (Septicaemia)	...	...	...	...	130
1	Lambs " " (Septic pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	82
1	" " " (Septicaemia)	...	...	...	...	58
1	" " " (Ill-bled)	...	...	...	...	47
7	Sheeps livers (Distomatosis)	...	...	...	...	15
6	" " (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	15
1	" lungs (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	2
1	" hind-quarters (bruising)	...	...	...	...	17
3	Lambs " " (Damaged—bruising)	...	...	...	...	59
2	Beasts lungs (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	22
1	" " (Pneumonia)	...	...	...	...	10
1	" " (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	12
3	" heads (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	136
1	" head (Actinomycosis)	...	...	...	...	37
1	" rump and back trimmings (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	15
1	" part hindquarters (Fracture—bruising)	...	...	...	...	35
1	" thoratic wall, rib and brisket (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	60
11	" livers (Abscess)	...	...	...	...	113
1	" liver (Cirrhosis)	...	...	...	...	14
1	" " (Parasitical)	...	...	...	...	10
1	" " (Tuberculosis)	...	...	...	...	10
	Topside Imported Frozen Beef (Bone taint)	...	...	...	...	80
	Beef rump trimmings (Bruising)	...	...	...	...	5
	Fore-end Bacon (Fly infested—decomposing)	...	...	...	...	15
	Smoked Irish Bacon (Miscured—decomposing)	...	...	...	...	24
	Smoked Side of Polish Bacon (Mis-cured)	...	...	...	...	28

Smoked Gammon Bacon (Mis-cured)	...	...	...	...	...	13
” ” ” ” (Excessive bruising—decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	11½
Irish Smoked Fore-end Bacon (Bone-taint)	...	...	...	...	...	16
						<i>Tins</i>
New Zealand Corned Beef (Tins blown—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	4
Steak and Kidney Pudding ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pork Luncheon Meat ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	1
Minced Steak ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	1
Beef Loaf ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	3
French Brisket of Beef ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	3
French Luncheon Meat ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	2
Dutch Luncheon Meat ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	2
Irish Stewed Steak ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	1
Danish Shoulder Ham ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	1
Corned Beef (Tins blown—contents damaged and leaking)	...	...	...	...	...	42
Corned Mutton (Tins blown—contents damaged and leaking)	...	...	...	...	...	36
Australian Minced Beef Loaf (Tin pierced—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	1
Dutch Pork Luncheon Meat ( do. )	...	...	...	...	...	1
” ” ” ” (Tins damaged—contents decomposing)	...	...	...	...	...	3
Corned Beef (Sulphation)	...	...	...	...	...	2

CLEAN FOOD CAMPAIGNS

*Number and Type of Food Premises in the area:*

Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	48
Public Houses	...	...	...	...	...	57
Butchers' Shops	...	...	...	...	...	15
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	4
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	4
Off-licence Premises	...	...	...	...	...	4
Fried Fish Shop	...	...	...	...	...	1
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	4
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	6
Cafés	...	...	...	...	...	7
Bacon Factory	...	...	...	...	...	1
Grain Drying Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1
Ministry of Food Buffer Depot	...	...	...	...	...	1
						—
						153
						—

*Number and Type of Food Premises in the area Registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act 1938:*

<i>No.</i>	<i>Purpose</i>	<i>No. of Inspections made</i>
62	Sale of Ice-cream	75
5	Preparation or Manufacture of Sausages	110
1	Curing bacon	47
1	Preparation of Fish by any process of cooking	9

*Method of disposal of Condemned Food.* Condemned meat is stained and processed for fertilisers, manures and animal feeding. Other condemned food is burnt and/or buried.



*Hotels and Restaurants.* All restaurants, hotel kitchens and cafés in the district have been regularly inspected during the year and some improvements effected as a result. The standard of hygiene has been raised but there is room for further improvement.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACTS 1938 and 1944

*Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949*

*Distributors of Milk*

Eight persons have been registered as distributors of Milk.

*Premises used as a Dairy (not being a Dairy Farm)*

Six premises have been registered as Dairies (not being Dairy Farms).

*Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurized and Sterilized Milk) Regulations 1949.*

Supplementary Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Pasteurized'	...	...	...	...	...	12
Supplementary Licence	...	...	...	...	'Sterilized'	1
Dealers' Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Pasteurized'	...	...	...	...	...	9

*Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations 1949*

Supplementary Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested'	...	...	...	...	11
Dealers' Licences issued authorizing the use of the special designation 'Tuberculin Tested'	...	...	...	...	6

*Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1936-46*

No samples of 'Pasteurized' Milk have been taken.

*Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936*

No samples of 'Tuberculin Tested' Milk have been taken.

*Ice-Cream.* The system of sampling introduced in July 1949 was continued during the year and 27 samples of ice-cream taken from the 62 premises registered for the sale of ice-cream were submitted for laboratory examination. The samples were graded as follows:

Grade	1	2	3	4	All Grades
No. of Samples ...	15	10	2	—	27
Percentage ...	56	37	7	—	100
1954 Samples Percentage ...	68	22	10	—	100

Retailers are notified of the result of the examination of each sample taken. When the grading of a sample is below Grade 2 a copy of the Laboratory report is also sent to the Public Health Department of the area in which the ice-cream was manufactured. In certain instances copies of reports are sent to the manufacturers themselves.

In fairness to the producers, it must be stated that the present test is by no means ideal; all that can be said for it is that it is the best test devised so far.

*Food Poisoning.* 3 cases were confirmed in 3 different families. In one *S. typhimurium* was isolated by the laboratory and in another *S. enteritidis*, the probable source of both infections being rodent droppings. No bacterial agent was found in the third case but it was suspected that the child who played regularly in a chicken-run became infected either from fowl or rodent droppings in the run.

SECTION F

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

*Diseases notified during the year, other than Pulmonary Tuberculosis*

					Number of cases notified		
					Male	Female	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	11	12	23
Measles	...	...	...	...	143	141	284
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	9	7	16
Dysentery	...	...	...	...	1	3	4
Meningococcal Infection	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Poliomyelitus	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
Totals					174	173	347

TUBERCULOSIS

	New Cases		Transfers into the district		Transfers out of the district and patients classified as recovered		Died	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Pulmonary ...	7	6	4	7	2	3	—	—
Non-Pulmonary ...	—	1	1	1	1	3	—	—
TOTAL ...	7	7	5	8	3	6	—	—

FACTORIES ACTS 1937-1948

(a) *Inspection of Factories*

	Number in Register	Inspec- tion made	Written Notices served	Occupiers Prose- cuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 apply ...	5	1	—	—
2. Factories in which Section 7 applies ... ..	43	13	—	—
3. Other Premises ... ..	4	—	—	—
TOTAL ... ..	52	14	—	—

(b) *Cases in which defects were found*

Defect	Number found	Number remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) Insufficient ... ..	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	—	—	—	—
(c) Not separate for Sexes ...	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

Section 47

No official action was taken under this Section of this Act during the year.

Section 50

It was ~~not~~ necessary for the Council to arrange the burial of ~~any~~ <sup>one</sup> persons who died in the area during the year.



PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

Report for the Year ended \*31st March, 1956

	Type of Property					
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Non-Agricultural			Total of Cols. 1, 2 & 3	Agricul- tural	TOTAL
	Local Authority	Dwelling Houses	All other (including Business Premises)			
1. Number of proper- ties in Local Au- thority's District	58	5954	550	6562	296	6858
2. Number of proper- ties inspected by the Local Authority as a result (a) of noti- fication (b) survey under the Preven- tion of Damage by Pest Act, 1949, or (c) otherwise	(a) —	50	—	50	7	57
	(b) 51	24	7	82	75	157
	(c) 7	891	276	1174	2	1176
3. Total inspections carried out including re-inspections	147	1829	9	1985	84	2069
4. Number of proper- ties (Sec. 2) found to be infested by rats	Major: 7	21	—	28	1	29
	Minor: 7	99	2	106	2	108
Number of proper- ties (Sec. 2) found to be seriously in- fested by mice	Major: —	—	—	—	—	—
	Minor: —	7	1	8	—	8
5. Number of infested properties (under Sec. 4) treated by Local Authority	14	108	—	122	—	122
6. Total treatments carried out including re-treatments	21	127	—	148	—	148
7. Number of Notices served under Section 4 of the Act (i) Treatment (ii) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	—	—	—	—	—	—
	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notice under Section 4	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Legal Proceedings	—	—	—	—	—	—
0. Number of 'block' control schemes car- ried out	—	5	—	5	—	5

1390

137

=145

8

\*The Ministry have asked for this return to coincide with the financial year.

# SUMMARY OF THE SANITARY INSPECTORS' WORK DURING THE YEAR 1955

Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	150
Number of Notices served (informal)	...	...	...	...	...	194
Number of Notices served (statutory)	<div> <div>Public Health Act</div> <div>Housing Act</div> </div>					<div>33</div> <div>1</div>
Number of prosecutions	...	...	...	...	...	Nil
NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS MADE	...	...	...	...	...	7766
Houses—Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	537
Houses—Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	354
Complaints investigated	...	...	...	...	...	150
Public Cleansing	...	...	...	...	...	906
Food Premises	...	...	...	...	...	282
Infectious Disease Cases	...	...	...	...	...	21
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	309
Petroleum Acts	...	...	...	...	...	58
Shops Acts	...	...	...	...	...	36
Revisits to Property under notice	...	...	...	...	...	3010
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	27
Animal Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	776
Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	...	...	...	...	...	12
Tinned Foods and other Articles of Food	...	...	...	...	...	58
Houses Disinfected	...	...	...	...	...	14
Houses Disinfested	...	...	...	...	...	21
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	182

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Interviews with Owners, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	321
NUMBER OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES ABATED	...	...	...	...	...	2120

## Dwelling Houses:

Repaired or made fit	...	...	...	...	...	166
Provided with Damp-Proof Course	...	...	...	...	...	9
Roofs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	132
Floors repaired, ventilated, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	150
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	...	...	...	...	...	164
Windows repaired, made to open, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	126
Sashcords renewed	...	...	...	...	...	3
Food Stores provided, repaired, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	86
Stairs repaired	...	...	...	...	...	76
Skirting boards provided or repaired	...	...	...	...	...	35
Doors repaired, rehung or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	60
Firegrates repaired, reset or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	57
Chimneys or Chimney stacks repaired	...	...	...	...	...	93
New sinks provided and fixed	...	...	...	...	...	157
Sink wastes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	...	10

Water supply provided inside houses	...	...	...	...	159
Wash Coppers repaired or provided	...	...	...	...	26
Copper firesets repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	5
External walls pointed	...	...	...	...	117
Ovens repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	9
External walls cemented or tarred	...	...	...	...	2
Eaves gutters and R.W.P. renewed	...	...	...	...	70
Yards and Passages paved and drained	...	...	...	...	49
Yard paving repaired	...	...	...	...	34
Drains, Water Closets and Ashes Accommodation:					
Obstructed drains cleansed	...	...	...	...	29
Obstructed W.C.'s cleansed	...	...	...	...	—
Yard gullies provided and connected to drains	...	...	...	...	25
Drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	105
Inspection chamber covers renewed	...	...	...	...	30
W.C. basins renewed	...	...	...	...	1
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	—
Closet structures repaired	...	...	...	...	13
Ashpits abolished	...	...	...	...	—
Dustbins provided	...	...	...	...	61
Other Nuisances:					
Animals improperly kept	...	...	...	...	5
Accumulations	...	...	...	...	2



